**Students, parents invited to Service Academy Nights. PAGE 2**
**New law allots $1M to several Saipan projects. PAGE 3**

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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# Martial artist foils burglar

A would-be burglar made the mistake of attempting to rob a tourist, who turned out to be trained in martial arts.

The burglar, who had snuck into the tourist's hotel room, was forced to apologize to his victim, but not before being placed in a rear-naked chokehold that had him scrabbling to get free.

Once the would-be robber had apologized, the supposed victim let him go, allowing the burglar to go out the way he had snuck in, climb over a fence, and have his face caught on a

**See MARTIAL on Page 4**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This series of images show video footage of the suspect climbing a chain link fence located north of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

## FY 2018 budget finalized

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A committee tasked to hammer out a compromise version of the $145-million budget succeeded yesterday in coming to terms on the budget allocations for fiscal year 2018.

The conference committee—consisting of four members of each chamber—agreed to the spending plan after intense discussions since

**See BUDGET on Page 4**

## Ex-Rota finance chief pleads guilty to embezzling funds

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former Rota resident director for Finance pleaded guilty yesterday to embezzling between $15,000 and $20,000 in government funds—a felony that carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

Vivian Ogo Hocog, who is also a former acting Rota Municipality trea-

**See EX-ROTA on Page 4**

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

**PROCLAMATION SIGNINGS**
The conference room of the Office of the Governor is filled with several representatives for three proclamation signing ceremonies that saw the designation of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, Fire Prevention Week, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

## Dems say they have deal with Trump on DACA

By ERICA WERNER and JILL COLVIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The top House and Senate Democrats say they have reached agreement with President Donald Trump to protect thousands of younger immigrants from deportation and fund some border security enhancements—not including Trump's coveted border wall.

The agreement represents the latest instance of Trump ditching his own party to make common cause with the opposition. It was announced by Senate Democratic Leader Chuck

**See DEMS on Page 4**

15 DAYS BEFORE THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2017

## INSIDE

**LOCAL**
A canoe summit will be held on Dec. 7, 2017, in Colonia, Yap.

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**SCIENCE & TECH**
Not everyone will find the extra features of Apple's new iPhone X necessary.

**PAGE 27**

**LIFE & STYLE**
Angelina Jolie arrives for an interview with the familiar harried air of a parent.

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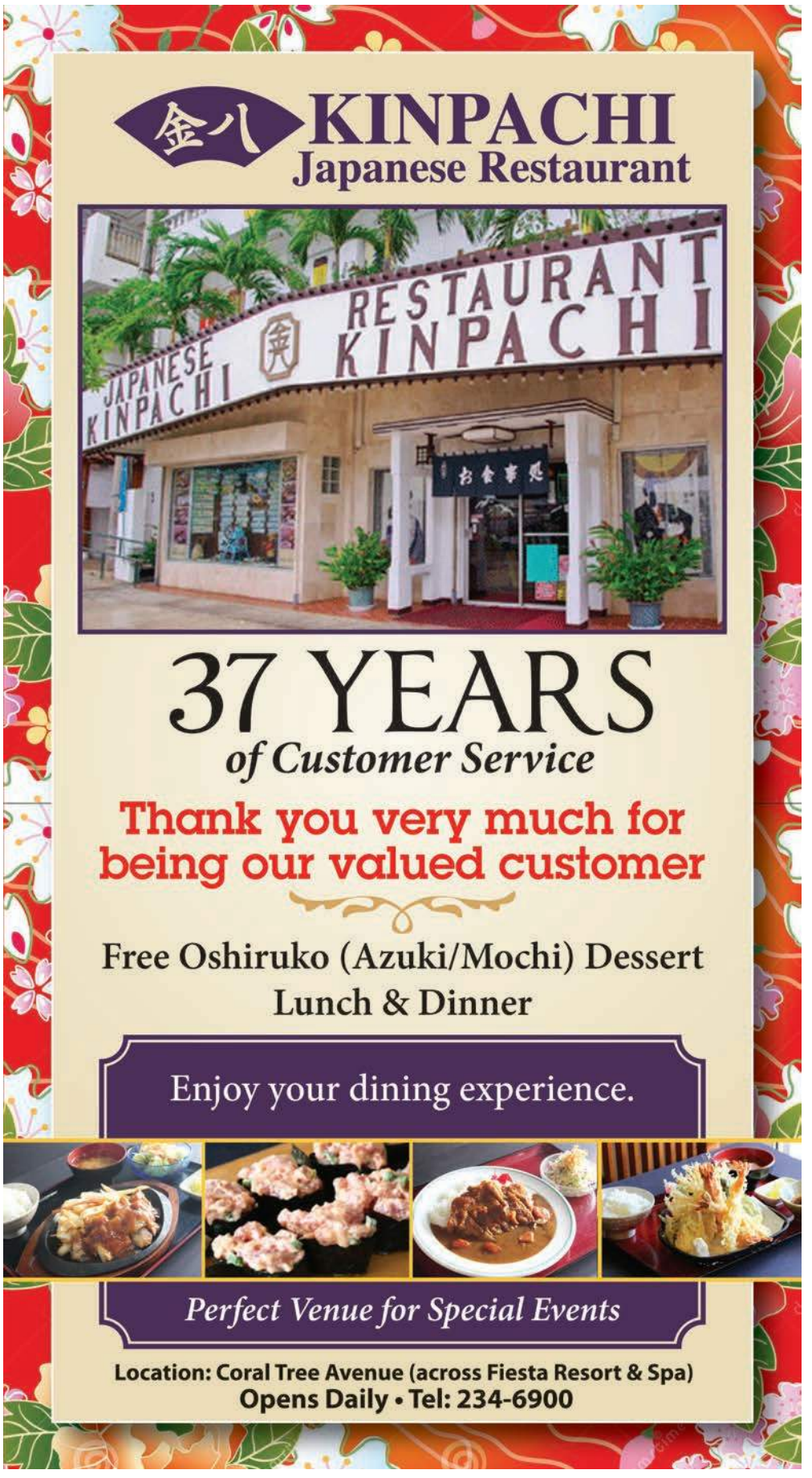
# Local




## Students, parents invited to Service Academy Nights

On Sept. 20, 21, and 22, the Office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) will be hosting Service Academy Nights on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

"These free workshops are open to all high school and college students in the Marianas who are interested in learning more about the exceptional educational and career opportunities offered by the nation's military academies," Sablan said. "And because they play such an important role in the success of their students, I also encourage parents, educators, and other advisors to attend."

Congressional staff will present the eligibility guidelines and process for applying to the U.S. service academies, most of which require a nomination from Sablan.

Several service academy graduates, including Coast Guard Academy graduate and current Coast Guard officer Lt. Christine Igisomar from the Marianas, will also be on hand to share their personal experiences and insight and answer questions.

Details for next week's Service Academy Nights are as follows:

■ Saipan: Wednesday, Sept. 20, American Memorial Park Visitors Center, 5pm to 7pm

■ Rota: Thursday, Sept. 21, Dr. Rita H. Inos Sr./Jr. High School cafeteria, 5pm to 7pm

■ Tinian: Friday, Sept. 22, Tinian Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria, 5pm to 7pm

There are four open slots reserved for students from the Northern Mariana Islands for the school year beginning fall 2018: two at the military academy in West Point, New York; one at the naval academy in Annapolis, Maryland; and one at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

For these academies, the deadline to apply for a nomination from Sablan is Dec. 8, 2017.

For the Coast Guard Academy, admission is competitive nationwide, and no congressional nomination is required, though Sablan may write letters of recommendation.

In addition to next week's Service Academy Nights, the congressional office is offering special workshops during regular school hours for any interested high school or college groups upon request. For more information about the congressional office's service academy outreach program, call 323-2647, visit www.sablan.house.gov, or email kilili@mail.house.gov. ***(PR)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Zoning office closed today

The Commonwealth Zoning Office will be closed today, Sept. 15, 2017, for an all-day professional development and training workshop for its staff and members of the Commonwealth zoning board. For inquiries, concerns, or questions to the office on this particular day, call (670) 287-4796 or (670) 285-2552. ***(PR)***

### Survivors & caregivers support meeting on Sept. 14

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the monthly support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017, starting at 5:30pm, at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

### Class of 1987 gears up for reunion

The Class of 1987 will be having its 30th-year class reunion on Sept. 23. The reunion is open to any CNMI Class of 1987 graduate, regardless of which high school they graduated from. A Mass in honor of departed classmates will be held at the San Antonio Church on Sept. 23, 2017, at 4pm. The reunion will follow immediately after the Mass, from 5:30pm to 10pm, at the Surf Club (beach side) in Chalan Kanoa, the former Pacific Gardenia Sunset Bar and Grill. To purchase a reunion ticket or to get more information, send an email to cnmiclassof87@gmail.comt. ***(PR)***

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# New law allots $1M to several Saipan projects

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres enacted yesterday a local measure that allocates $1 million to several projects on Saipan.

House Local Bill 20-36, S1, offered by Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) and passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, appropriates $1 million to assist various entities and projects within Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The money comes from the Exclusive Gaming Annual License Fees allotted to Saipan under Public Law 18-56.

"The bill provides funding for essential services and programs including, among other things, local job training, small business development, cultural education, and services for our friends and family with disabilities. The goal of this section of Public Law 18-56 was to make sure that $1 million of the annual license fee is prioritized for key infrastructure projects in our precincts and for programs and services that serve a public purpose. I commend [delegation chair] J.P. Sablan and the delegation for allocating for these priorities. We hope to continue this work of addressing more priorities as we move forward," Torres said.

The appropriation is as follows:

- $80,000 to the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc.
- $50,000 to the Carolinian Affairs for the 2017 Cultural Heritage Month
- $20,000 to the Salvation Army CNMI Citadel Corps
- $75,000 to the Commonwealth Zoning Board for their enforcement personnel and operation
- $25,000 to the Civil Service Commission and Office of Personnel Management for civil service training programs
- $220,000 to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan for the purchase of a new tractor/boom mower
- $10,000 to the NMI Crime Stoppers Program
- $15,000 to the Saipan and Northern Islands Agriculture Fair Association for the 2017 Saipan Agriculture Fair
- $34,000 to the Department of Finance, Division of Procurement and Supply for the purchase of a new vehicle
- $50,000 to the Micronesian Legal Services-Marianas Office
- $25,000 to the Commonwealth Women's Association to renovate and repair Building 1221 to be used as the CNMI Women's Center
- $50,000 to the Latte Training Academy to support job training courses/programs in hotel/hospitality, healthcare, and information technology
- $25,000 to the Department of Labor for the procurement of a vehicle for labor enforcement
- $20,000 to the Department of Commerce to support hosting of the 2017 Business Development Seminar
- $10,000 to the Music of the Marianas Association to procure music equipment to support youth programs promoting local music
- $10,000 to Napu Outrigger Canoe Club to support youth-based outrigger programs
- $51,735 to SNILD
- $40,853 for road widening in Chalan Tun Antonio Apa in Fina Sisu in Precinct 1
- $40,853 for the renovation of the Susupe Social Hall in Precinct 2
- $10,000 for the water drainage system in Oleai by the San Jose Church and $30,853 for the pavement and beautification of the easement north of the Marina Heights Building in Precinct III
- $40,853 for the paving of Egigi Drive on Capital Hill in Precinct 4
- $28,000 for the construction of two bus stops on Lalangita Road, one bus stop on Hasngot Drive, one bus stop on Bilimbines Street, and two bus stops on Isa Drive, and
- $12,853 for the installation of street lights in Kagman 1, 2, 3 in Precinct 5.

The bill becomes Saipan Local Law 20-10. ***(PR)***

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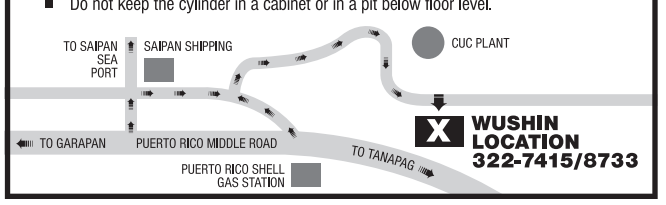

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## DEMS

*From Page 1*

Schumer and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi late Wednesday following a White House dinner that Republican lawmakers weren't invited to attend. It would enshrine protections for the nearly 800,000 immigrants brought illegally to this country as kids who had benefited from former President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program, which provided temporary work permits and shielded recipients from deportation.

■■■

**Trump is denying the assertions. He sent out a series of tweets before daybreak Thursday taking issue with Schumer and Pelosi's characterizations of the White House dinner Wednesday evening.**

**Trump said in a tweet: "No deal was made last night on DACA."**

**"Massive border security would have to be agreed to in exchange for consent. Would be subject to vote," the president said.**

■■■

Trump ended DACA earlier this month and gave Congress six months to come up with a legislative fix before the statuses of the so-called "Dreamers" begin to expire.

"We agreed to enshrine the protections of DACA into law quickly, and to work out a package of border security, excluding the wall, that's acceptable to both sides," Pelosi and Schumer said in a joint statement.

The White House however, quickly pushed back against any suggestion that Trump's long-sought border wall was put in peril at the meeting. Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said over Twitter that "excluding the wall was certainly not agreed to."

Pelosi spokesman Drew Hammill said that at the dinner, "the president was clear he would press for the wall but separate from this agreement."

Either way, it was the second time in two weeks that Trump cut out Republicans to reach a deal with Pelosi and Schumer. A person briefed on the meeting, who demanded anonymity to discuss it, said the deal specifies bipartisan legislation called the DREAM Act that provides eventual citizenship for the young immigrants.

House Republicans would normally rebel over such an approach, which many view as amnesty for law-breakers. It remains to be seen how conservatives' loyalty to Trump will affect their response to a policy they would have opposed under other circumstances.

The House's foremost immigration hardliner, GOP Rep. Steve King of Iowa, made clear that he, for one, was not happy.

Addressing Trump over Twitter, King wrote that if the reports were true, "Trump base is blown up, destroyed, irreparable, and disillusioned beyond repair. No promise is credible."

Earlier Wednesday, during a White House meeting with moderate House members from both parties, Trump had urged lawmakers to come up with a bipartisan solution for the "Dreamers."

"We don't want to forget DACA," Trump told the members at the meeting. "We want to see if we can do something in a bipartisan fashion so that we can solve the DACA problem and other immigration problems."

Foreshadowing what was to take place later that evening, Trump said he would be open to separating the wall issue from the question of the younger immigrants, as long as the wall got dealt with eventually.

The apparent deal is the latest example of Trump's sudden pivot to bipartisanship after months of railing against Democrats as "obstructionist." He has also urged them to join him in overhauling the nation's tax code, among other priorities.

Trump, who was deeply disappointed by Republicans' failure to make good on years of promises to repeal "Obamacare," infuriated many in his party last week when he reached a three-month deal with Schumer and Pelosi to raise the debt ceiling, keep the government running and speed relief to states affected by recent hurricanes.

"More and more we're trying to work things out together," Trump explained Wednesday, calling the development a "positive thing" for both parties.

"If you look at some of the greatest legislation ever passed, it was done on a bipartisan manner. And so that's what we're going to give a shot," he said.

The "Kumbaya" moment now appears to extend to the thorny issue of immigration, which has been vexing lawmakers for years. Funding for Trump's promised wall had been thought to be a major point of contention between Republicans and Democrats as they attempted to forge a deal—yet by Thursday, Trump was apparently ready to deal even on that issue, the one that most defined his campaign for president last year.

**PROCLAMATIONS** KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog sign a proclamation declaring National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, Fire Prevention Week, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

## BUDGET

*From Page 1*

the House of Representatives rejected the Senate amendments last Monday.

"The work of the conference committee centered on considering critical needs throughout the Commonwealth government," said Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), who led the House conferees.

"I am very much pleased that we were able to work swiftly and prudently come up with a compromise version of the fiscal year 2018 budget. Ultimately, our goal was to ensure that we iron out areas of contention and that we prevent any shutdown in government services," he added.

Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), the Senate conferees chairman, also described the budget as "prudent and beneficial to the Commonwealth as a whole."

"Aside from working out the budgetary needs of the central government, it is equally important to ensure that we take care of the needs of our municipal governments as well. With the cooperation of all the conferees, we are pleasd to put forward a final version of the budget that addresses all areas of the Commonwealth," he said.

The House had opposed the Senate's indirect cut on the Marianas Visitors Authority's budget—an allocation of about $1.5 million. Through the conference committee, it was finalized that a total of $550,000 would be restored to the MVA budget.

The finalized fiscal year 2018 budget still calls for MVA to fund a $450,000 purchase of a truck for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services; $250,000 each to fund both the Tinian and Rota Mayor's Office's purchase of a tractor with batwing mower attachments; and $69,435 for the funding of tourism-related programs of the Public School System's Cooperative Education Program.

The House also had issues with Senate amendments that buffed up the funding of both Rota and Tinian. The House originally allocated $7.8 million and $7.7 million for Rota and Tinian, respectively. The Senate amendments allocated $8.2 million and $8.4 million for Rota and Tinian, respectively.

Through the conference committee, Rota was allocated $8.1 million, while Tinian's allocation remained unchanged at $8.4 million.

According to a statement from the Legislature, the allocations take into account "funding needs to help improve government services and programs" for each island's residents.

The conferees also decided that since the Supreme Court has yet to issue a ruling on the constitutionality of an increase in salaries for elected officials, the funding allocated for this would be re-appropriated elsewhere.

The conferees decided that $334,937 of the appropriation for House members' salaries and $$150,122 of the appropriation for Senate members' salaries would go to both the Department of Public Works for street lights and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. The Legislature noted that the fiscal year 2018 budget still reflects the appropriation of $2.8 million for the funding of salary increases for civil service employees of the government, making it the second consecutive fiscal year to do so since the enactment of Public Law 19-83.

DPW receives $104,759 while CHCC receives $380,900.

The Senate also amended the initial budget proposal to include the payment of hazardous pay for Solid Waste employees on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The conference committee approved the provision.

A total of $1 million was appropriated to address judgments against the Commonwealth government for the payments of final judgments and settlements.

An agreement between conferees increased the number of positions allocated to the Governor's Vacant Holding Account from 50 to 100, provided that 30 would be reserved for the Saipan Department of Public Safety and 10 each for both the Rota and Tinian Department of Public Safety.

"This provision will allow DPS to draw a number of positions from the Vacant Holding Account should staffing needs arise, provided that the department can identify available funds to support the needs," said the Legislature statement.

## EX-ROTA

*From Page 1*

surer, pleaded guilty to theft.

Under the plea agreement the 55-year-old Hocog signed, the sentence will be between zero and five years imprisonment.

She will be sentenced on Jan. 26, 2018, at 10:30am at the Rota Courthouse.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja presided over the case. Assistant attorney general Heather P. Barcinas prosecuted. Charles McDonald is the court-appointed counsel for Hocog.

The government had charged Hocog with theft and misconduct in public office. With the plea deal, the remaining charge of misconduct was dropped.

Between July 2015 and May 2016 on Rota, Hocog stole property belonging to the CNMI Rota Mayor's Office by diverting monies from the CNMI government for her own personal use. The money was taken from miscellaneous and municipal treasurer accounts.

Hocog was arrested on Rota in September 2016. The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor investigated the case. She subsequently posted bail.

Among the allegations was that Hocog used Rota Municipal Treasurer checks to buy cases of beer for her own benefit and to play poker. She also allegedly forged the signature of Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog's son, Victor Val, on a business license application for VAL's Enterprise.

OPA investigator Juan M. Santos stated in his report that the investigation began when an anonymous caller gave information on July 8, 2016, that Hocog abused and misused funds under the Rota Imprest Funds and the Rota Municipal Treasurer Account for her own personal gain.

Hocog would allegedly write Rota Municipal Treasurer checks to "cash" in a co-worker's name, family's names, or her boyfriend's name.

The checks were used at several stores and poker establishments on Rota and at one store on Saipan.

## MARTIAL

*From Page 1*

surveillance camera.

In a Crime of the Week alert issued yesterday, Crime Stoppers coordinator and police spokesman Lt. Jason Tarkong said the incident occurred at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

According to the police report, police responded on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017, at about 8am, and met with the two victims, an Asian male age 36, and his wife, age 35.

Both were asleep in their hotel room when they awoke to the sound of their room's balcony sliding door being opened. The suspect then entered the room. The male victim, who is trained in martial arts, wrestled the suspect to the ground, securing him with a rear-naked chokehold. The suspect apologized to the victim, who then released the suspect. The suspect escaped back out the sliding glass door.

Police reviewed video footage of the suspect climbing a chain link fence located north of the hotel.

He is described as a local male, with short dark hair, about 5'10" tall, weighs 170 lbs, and wearing a black baseball cap, a pair of long khaki-colored pants, and a dark sleeveless basketball jersey shirt.

The suspect climbed over the fence at 5:45am and exited the property over the same fence without the baseball cap at 5:55am.

The suspect left behind his baseball cap, which had the word "SEWN" on it. Police recovered the hat in the victims' room and secured it as evidence. The victim received a minor injury and nothing was stolen.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use its website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

# MCC Int'l exec signs plea deal with US govt

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The MCC International project manager who was one of five indicted for allegedly harboring illegal Chinese workers who worked on the Pacific Imperial International CNMI LLC casino resort in Garapan has signed a plea deal with the U.S. government.

Yuqing Zhao's lawyer, Colin M. Thompson, and assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley both asked the federal court to vacate the trial and pretrial conference. Instead, they asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold a change of plea hearing on Oct. 25, 2017.

The plea deal was sealed.

On Friday, the federal court granted the U.S. government's request to issue a protective order in the cases against Zhao, Beilida Overseas president Hui Lu, and Beilida's Wencai Guo, Xiufang Qi, and Hongwei Ma.

The indictment had charged Zhao with harboring illegal aliens.

A separate indictment charged Lu, Guo, Qi, and Ma with harboring illegal aliens.

According to the indictment, beginning on Aug. 1, 2016, and until March 31, 2017, Zhao harbored 15 illegal aliens.

The separate indictment alleges that on March 8 through March 22, 2017, Lu, Guo, and Ma harbored an illegal alien, Yuanyou Hu.

Hu, a Chinese national, was killed after falling from a scaffold at the construction site of the Imperial Pacific casino and resort project last March 22.

On Feb. 7 through March 22, 2017, Lu Guo, Qi, and Ma allegedly harbored six illegal aliens.

MCC International is the construction contractor for Imperial Pacific. Beilida Overseas is a subcontractor.

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BEA CABRERA

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Division of Customs Services director Jose C. Mafnas, Finance Secretary Larissa Larson, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente, OCOS operation manager Tevita Tupou and OCO trade and revenue manager Laisian Tugaga are surrounded by officers and personnel of the Division of Customs after the certification ceremony at the National Workshop at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

# Customs completes three-day workshop

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Division of Customs completed yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan a three-day workshop on the Revised Kyoto Convention that was intended to bring CNMI customs practices up to par with world standards.

The RKC training, conducted by the Oceania Customs Organisation Secretariat, was to give the CNMI a global perspective on customs laws and be a part of the world trading system in terms of main trade facilitation.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who gave the participants their certificates, said the training is particularly important to the Division of Customs as they are at the forefront of safekeeping and protecting what goes in and out of the CNMI.

"My belief…is to give the Division of Customs what they need now. …I support additional trainings, new programs and enhancing the programs we already have to strengthen everyone's ability," Torres said. "The more training we give Customs, the less likely contraband and illegal items will come into our community."

Customs director Jose C. Mafnas reiterated that the goals of Customs are to remove bottlenecks, improve practices and procedures, and be more efficient. "We value our taxpayers who contribute to the economy, so we have to make our services better for them."

The participants were in high spirits. Lt. Jesse Atalig said, "Our mission after this workshop is to be in compliant with the RKC, strategize and elevate procedures that will help simplify legislation, customs regulations, standard operating procedures, directives and memorandum to be business friendly with new investors and most especially, not to jeopardize the security level in a timely manner."

Customs faces challenges when it comes to equipment and manpower but, according to Mafnas, the governor's support is much appreciated.

"In my many years of service in Customs, I have never received a call from the governor offering to provide equipment. Gov. Torres called me last week and asked what equipment we still need. He asked me to do research on the mobile scanner, the one that can scan a container van and I thank him for that offer."

According to Torres, the mobile scanner is important. "If you've got a warehouse where you can scan four different containers in one hour, then we will be able to reduce the need for several manpower."

Torres wants the global stage to know that the CNMI is a very peaceful place, a family-oriented community, and is tourist-based.

"We want peace and we want to protect that peace and the safety of the community. By doing so, we have to be aggressive in trying to stop illegal contraband that come into the islands, illegal drugs, items that violate U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations, and encourage them to just follow the law."

Although the three-day workshop is done, the Division of Customs will still meet on Sept. 15 at PIC to have an internal meeting and report on the outcome of the workshop. The next Division of Customs training by OCO is scheduled in November this year.

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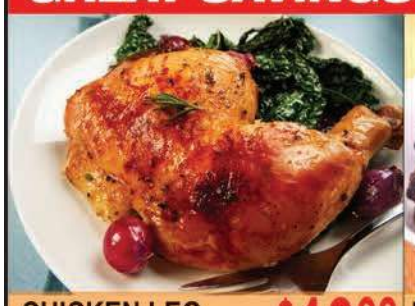

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# Retirees, NMC, NMTI benefit from casino BGRT

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives has accepted a Senate substitute to a bill that initially sought to establish a separate account for casino-generated gross revenue tax for separate appropriations, to include retirees and educational facilities, among many others.

House Bill 20-99 SS1 passed the House on a 13-4 vote.

Minority leader Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and Reps. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao (Ind-Saipan) voted against its passage, with some arguing that the body should act instead on House Bill 20-28 which has similar provisions.

During the Sept. 8, 2017, Senate session, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) commended the House for accepting the substitute.

"The Senate made very substantive changes to…be sure that the Northern Marianas College and Northern Marianas Trades Institute are included [as beneficiaries]," said Palacios.

Currently, recipients of the casino-generated gross revenue tax funds are the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Medical Referral Program, the Public School System, and the payment of land compensation judgments.

H.B. 20-99 SS1 seeks to directly re-appropriate the annual casino license fee of $15 million. Both Rota and Tinian would get $2 million each, while the remaining $9.5 million goes to Saipan. The remaining $1.5 million is appropriated to the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Program.

A provision in the bill sets aside the first $22 million in casino-generated gross revenue tax to cover the payment of 25 percent of full benefits and bonuses of retirees from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Subsequent casino-generated gross revenue tax was amended to include both NMC and NMTI as recipients.

"The government does not have the money to fully support our budget and that is the reason we are not able to implement [certain programs]," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "We are very happy about it."

"We appreciate all the help from the government," said Dave Attao, NMTI director of planning, budget grants, human resource, and instruction. "Our community needs the employees that we have now and NMTI has very limited [resources] so the more [resources] NMTI could build up for stability, the better."

The bill now heads to the governor for enactment.

# Coast Guard to conduct recruiting on Saipan

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—The U.S. Coast Guard will have recruiters on Saipan from Sept. 18 to Sept. 22, to meet with interested applicants.

They will be visiting Kagman High School, Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Mount Carmel School, and Grace Christian Academy throughout the week.

Interested students, especially those in their senior year, should see their counselors to participate in these visits.

For those who have graduated high school, or would like more time with the recruiter, the recruiters will be posted at the Saipan Mayor's Office on Beach Road in San Jose, from 1pm to 5pm each afternoon that week. Walk-ins are welcome.

The U.S. Coast Guard is a military, multi-mission, maritime service within the Department of Homeland Security and one of the nation's five armed services.

Its core roles are to protect the public, the environment and the U.S. economic and security interests in America's coasts, ports and inland waterways.

Serving in the Coast Guard allows its members to travel worldwide, and duty stations include Guam, Hawaii, the mainland United States, the Caribbean, Europe, and the Middle East.

The requirements to join the Coast Guard are:

- Be a U.S. citizen or a resident alien.
- Be between the ages of 17-31 (up to age 32 if qualified for attending guaranteed "A" school) for active duty (If you are 17, you'll need parental consent.).
- Have a high school diploma. GEDs are accepted in special circumstances.
- Have no more than three dependents.
- Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test.
- Pass a military entrance medical exam.

For more information, go to www.gocoastguard.com, or contact the recruiter for the CNMI, Petty Officer First Class Mark Prijic at Mark.R.Prijic@uscg.mil to set up an appointment the week of Sept. 18-22. ***(PR)***

# Luta hosts 3rd Coconut Festival

**ROTA**—The 3rd Luta Coconut Festival kicked off yesterday with a lineup of activities and competitions that includes a Battle of the Band and Lip Sync Competition.

Vendors began offering their wares for sale starting yesterday at 6pm at the Joaquin M. Ogo "Tun Kindu"" Baseball Field, where many of the festival's activities will take place.

Registration forms for the Battle of the Band and Lip Sync Competition are available at the Rota Mayor's Office and Department of Commerce Office. There will be cash prizes.

The Coconut Festival started two years ago, featuring games and competitions such as fashion shows, making of the hut, coconut husking, and many more. ***(Va'ina Lizama)***

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# BECQ hones in on non-point source pollution

To further address non-point source pollution, the Bureau of Environmental and Coast Quality recently performed low volume roads training with personnel of the Division of Coastal Resource Management.

Janice Castro, acting division director, said that non-point source pollution, or NPS, is a concern worsened by heavy rainfall and man-made pollutants carried to coastal areas by runoff.

"Low volume roads, which are often unpaved and typically transport less than 1,000 vehicle trips daily, often receive less attention in design and maintenance but are a primary source of non-point source pollution, which poses risks to the coastal environment," Castro said.

Castro said that NPS affects groundwater and surrounding beaches, that low volume roads are also connected to residential areas and farmland where fertilizer, animal waste, and construction debris are interconnected.

"To address this challenge, trainings were held on Saipan and Rota, with the first day focusing on theory and the second day spent assessing road design and maintenance opportunities in the field. We hope to continue to hold interagency knowledge exchanges and continue the momentum to identify and address low volume road management challenges moving forward," Castro said.

According to acting BECQ administrator Ray Masga, public advisories on water quality have been consistently monitored since the 1980's.

"The Division of Environmental Quality analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's west coast recreational beaches and storm drainages…every Tuesday. Samples collected are assessed for concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns. Even though non-point source pollution can't be pinpointed to a single cause, we see that mitigating NPS from low-volume roads is needed," Masga said.

The trainings were also attended by the Saipan Mayor's Office and staff from the Department of Public Works of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"Addressing non-point source pollution is a very important step in safeguarding our coastal resources. We know that runoff has a direct impact on the health of our beaches and marine life. Our water quality monitoring has improved but low-volume roads have been an ongoing concern. Through this collaboration, we hope to improve road construction and engineering especially in terms of erosion control which has been overlooked in secondary road construction," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. ***(PR)***

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 3rd birthday to our little Spider-Man, Liam Matthew Duenas! With lots of love from *Nina* and *Nino* Delos Reyes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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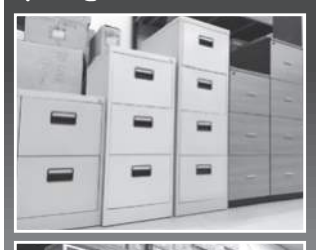

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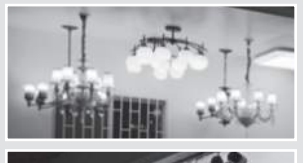
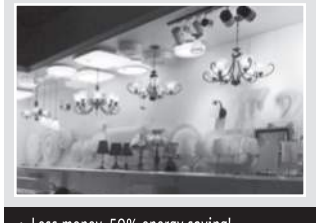
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**ETC DONATION**
Victorino S. Cepeda, right, External Relations director of the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, receives a $2,000 education tax credit donation from Wushin Corp. The Wushin donation is presented by Mher Lacap and Tess Amog.

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# Benefits of Gardening

## Stress Relief
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## Money Saver
2 When you garden, you can plant fruits and veggies that you want to eat. So you don't need to buy them from the store.

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3 Pulling weeds or using different tools while gardening can help you work those muscles and build up quite an exercise. This will help increase strength, stamina and flexibility.

## Healthy Eating
4 Garden so you can have fresh, ready to go fruits and vegetables at your fingertips. People who garden tend to eat healthier because they are more aware of what goes on their plate and in their mouth.

## Improve Overall Health
5 Being around vegetable plants, soil, and sunlight can help keep your bones strong and boost your immune system to help you fight colds.

CNMI Diabetes Prevention and Control Program

This poster was paid for by funds from the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant
For more information please contact the Non-Communicable Disease Bureau at 236-8727

# CSC meets on Rota and Tinian

The Civil Service Commission recently journeyed to Rota and Tinian for monthly meetings—a milestone made possible by the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Legislature allocating funds for the trips.

"We have been planning to do this since we reconstituted the commission in 2012," said commission chair Herman R. Guerrero, "but budget limitations didn't allow it until this year. We thank the governor and the Legislature for providing us with a budget for [fiscal year] 2017 that allowed these trips. We hope our future budgets allow continued visits."

Guerrero said the commission wants to meet on Rota and Tinian at least once a year to allow civil service employees to meet with them and share any concerns.

"These are landmark trips," he said. "To my knowledge, these were the first times that the Civil Service Commission met outside Saipan."

He said there are civil service employees both on Tinian and and Rota "and we want to meet with them and give them the opportunity to attend our meetings."

The commission met on Rota from July 25 to July 27 at the Rota Health Clinic.

The meeting on Tinian was held on Aug. 23 to Aug. 25 at the Tinian Gaming Control Commission conference room.

Both meetings were attended by several civil service employees who participated in the commission's discussion. On both trips, the commissioners also visited other government offices. ***(PR)***

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# Johnson is Wounded Warrior Fellow

Marine Corps veteran Randy Takai Johnson has been selected for the Wounded Warrior Fellowship Program and will be staying in Washington, D.C. for a week to kick off his two-year fellowship, working with the office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

The Wounded Warrior Program was established to create employment opportunities for veterans within the House of Representatives. This two-year fellowship provides veterans with experience and exposure to other job opportunities.

Marine Corps veteran Randy Takai Johnson has been selected for the Wounded Warrior Fellowship Program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

According to the program, the applicant must have been on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, and has a 30 percent or greater service connected disability rating with less than 20 years of service. If the selected fellowship is located within a representative's district, the appointment is contingent on the continuous representation in the U.S. House.

According to Johnson, he was chosen after a competitive interview process for the position.

Johnson graduated from Mount Carmel School in 2001 and was enlisted in the Marines in May 2003. He served for four years and did two tours in Iraq as a combat engineer, bomb detector, and also joined in different combat operations. Johnson is also a recipient of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He finished his bachelor's degree in Information Technology in 2014, returned home to the Marianas and is now working for the American Red Cross NMI Chapter. ***(Mackenzie Perez)***

# Aldan finishes basic training

U.S Air Force airman Candice Coronel Aldan finished basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas last Aug. 18.

Aldan

Aldan went through an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical training, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Her parents, Criselda Aldan of Mount Carmel School and Candido Aldan of the Department of Corrections said they were at first very hesitant about Aldan joining the armed forces. "She was our only girl but this is what she wants and we're here to support her all the way," said Criselda Aldan. "I am so proud of my daughter! She is all grown up and willing to stand up and fight for our country." ***(Mackenzie Perez)***


# Department of Labor

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**Smaller Business** – Specifically designed for small and medium sized business – not more than 250 employees.

**No Penalty** – No citations are issued for hazards identified by the consultant, and no penalties are ever proposed

**Confidentiality** – Public disclosure & enforcement disclosure (consultation result not publicized or shared with OSHA enforcement). Except in situations where imminent danger or serious hazards are not corrected as agreed upon.

**Full Service Consultation** – Full service consultation covers all working conditions and includes assistance in establishing effective workplace safety and health programs, also may include training and education for you, supervisors, and your other employees.

**Benefits** – First and foremost, your increased understanding of workplace hazards and remedies will enable you to protect your workers from injury and illness.

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2) The opening conference
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**Consultation will "NOT":**

- Issue citations or propose penalties for violations of federal or states OSHA standard
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***When you request consultation service, by the completion of the process you will receive:***

- An appraisal of all mechanical and environmental hazards and physical work practices;
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- A conference to review findings;
- A written report of recommendations and agreements
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- Follow-up by the consultant to ensure that any required corrections have been made

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# RFP17 – RED005

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2017**

## "QUARRY OPERATOR ON PUBLIC LANDS – LOT NUMBER 011 C 04 – AS MATUIS, SAIPAN"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified quarry operators for the purpose of operating a commercial rock quarry on the following public lands:

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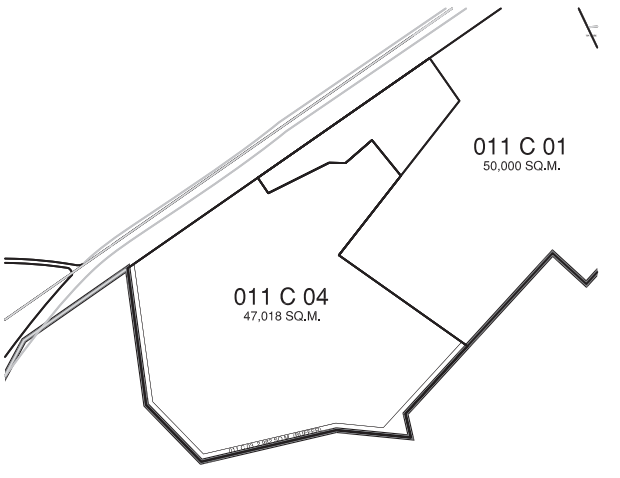



The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If a hardcopy is preferred, a charge of .50 cents per page will be assessed, however, the full package of the RFP is available to download at www.dpl.gov.mp or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

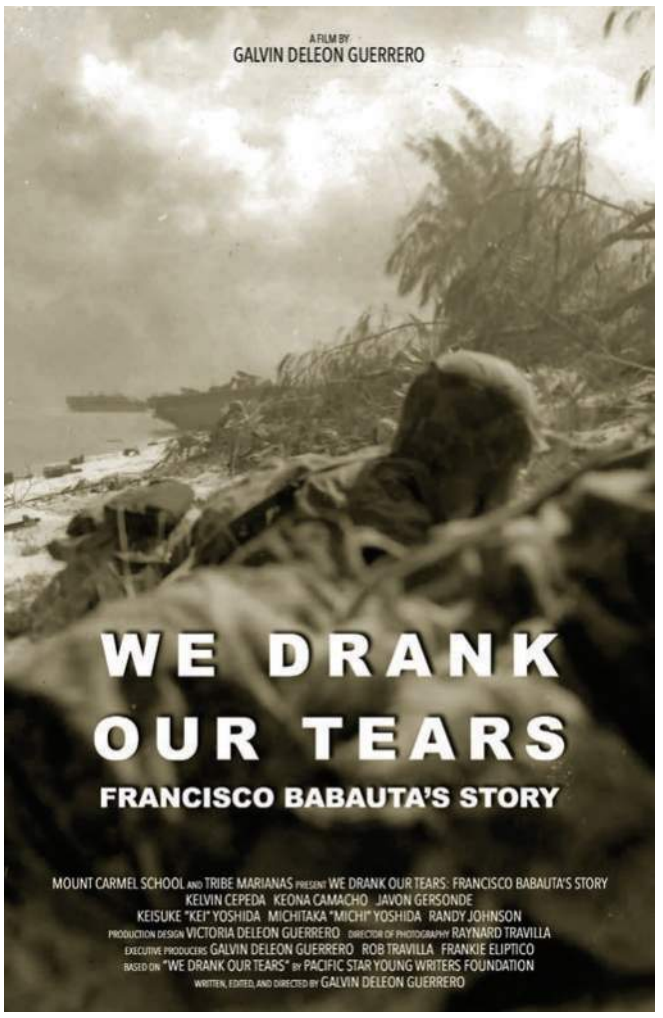
Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, no later than 4:30pm on September 29, 2017 ChST and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

The Department Public Lands reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the Department of Public Lands.

MARIANNE CONCEPCION-TEREGEYO
Secretary
Department of Public Lands

# MCS Theatre Club film a finalist at Guam filmfest


A FILM BY
GALVIN DELEON GUERRERO
WE DRANK
OUR TEARS
FRANCISCO BABAUTA'S STORY
MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL AND TRIBE MARIANAS PRESENT WE DRANK OUR TEARS: FRANCISCO BABAUTA'S STORY
KELVIN CEPEDA KEONA CAMACHO JAVON GERSONDE
KEISUKE "KEI" YOSHIDA MICHITAKA "MICHI" YOSHIDA RANDY JOHNSON
PRODUCTION DESIGN VICTORIA DELEON GUERRERO DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RAYNARD TRAVILLA
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GALVIN DELEON GUERRERO ROB TRAVILLA FRANKIE ELIPTICO
BASED ON "WE DRANK OUR TEARS" BY PACIFIC STAR YOUNG WRITERS FOUNDATION
WRITTEN, EDITED, AND DIRECTED BY GALVIN DELEON GUERRERO

The official poster for the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club production of *We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story.*
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Javon Gersonde as Francisco in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club production of *We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story.*
MCS

Keisuke "Kei" Yoshida as Hirokazu in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club production of *We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story.*
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The short film *We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story*, from Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club, is one of three finalists for the Made in the Marianas Award at the 7th Annual Guam International Film Festival.

The film is adapted from *We Drank Our Tears*, a 2004 oral history of the civilian experience of World War II battles on Saipan and Tinian, published by Pacific STAR Young Writers Foundation. In 1944, some of the final battles of World War II were waged on the Pacific islands of Saipan and Tinian. A total of 933 indigenous Chamorro and Refaluwasch civilians did not survive the battles. The short film chronicles one of those stories.

The film's writer, editor, and director is school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, who is very happy with the film. "We were just hoping it would get accepted as a submission into the festival, but we never thought it would be up for a major award like this."

In his notification message to Deleon Guerrero, GIFF program director Kel Muña wrote, "Our program committee is thrilled to include *We Drank Our Tears* into the festival's programming lineup and in addition, felt that it is deserving of the nomination for this special award."

Deleon Guerrero attributed the film's success to the cast and crew. "We had a great group of collaborators who brought so much talent, passion, and commitment to the production."

The film's cast and crew included a wide range of talent from across the island. The film was produced by Deleon Guerrero, 2005 AlumKnight Rob Travilla and his company TRIBE Marianas, Frankie Eliptico and the Northern Marianas College, and the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities. The cast features Javon Gersonde as Francisco, Kelvin Cepeda as Francisco's father, Keona Camacho as Francisco's mother, and Keisuke "Kei" Yoshida as Hirokazu, a Japanese soldier who interacts with Francisco and his family. The cast also includes Michitaka "Michi" Yoshida and Randy Johnson as Japanese soldiers and Elphidia "Peding" Cepeda Sanchez and Derek Gersonde as older versions of their respective characters in the film.

The film's crew included Zeno Deleon Guerrero as production manager, Markel Toves as first assistant director, Aysia Duenas Santos as assistant production manager, Raynard Travilla as director of photography, and Victoria Deleon Guerrero as production designer. Miguel Dandan, Angelo Manese, and Joshua Sablan operated the cameras, Willam Deleon Guerrero operated the boom microphone, and Velma Deleon Guerrero and Michelle Masga assisted in production design.

*We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story* will have it world premiere at the film festival, which will be held from Sept. 27 to Oct. 1 at the Guam Museum.

Launched in 2011 as the first and only U.S. film festival in the western Pacific, the Guam International Film Festival presents an international cinema event exhibiting a dynamic source of cross-cultural artistic presence, bridging gaps among the U.S., Asia, and the Pacific's multi-cultural population and region. To purchase tickets or for more information about the festival, visit the festival's site at guamfestival.org. ***(PR)***

HARDT EYE CLINIC

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1931-1989

*Cared for the eyes of Paradise, California for 30 years.*

*We'd like to pay tribute to our Dad who would be celebrating his birthday this month if he was still with us. We are proud to have followed in his footsteps and strive to continue his tradition for superior, personalized care for all patients.*

235-2030

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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## Harvey and Irma were hard, but most of the world's disasters are ignored

**By MARKOS KOULANAKIS**
Special to McClatchy

*Markos Kounalakis is a senior fellow at Central European University and visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. Contact him at markos@stanford.edu or on Twitter @KounalakisM.*

What a disastrous few weeks. Historic hurricanes, massive earthquakes, and large-scale wildfires have all simultaneously struck the Americas, grabbing headlines and inspiring telethons. The reporting has been extensive and the outpouring of generous homegrown support seems endless.

Elsewhere in the world, however, bad instincts or habits lead political and corporate leaders to mislead, hide, and deny disasters or impending doom. Russia and China are particularly susceptible to this trait, but it is generally true for less democratic and minimally accountable governments and institutions where disaster can translate into political crisis or even the threat of regime change.

In the former Soviet Union, the initial reaction and official denial of the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown and crisis set in motion the conditions for the eventual downfall of the entire empire. In a new biography about Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the Chernobyl cover-up was considered the turning point that put Gorbachev on the political reform path toward a greater openness that became unstoppable.

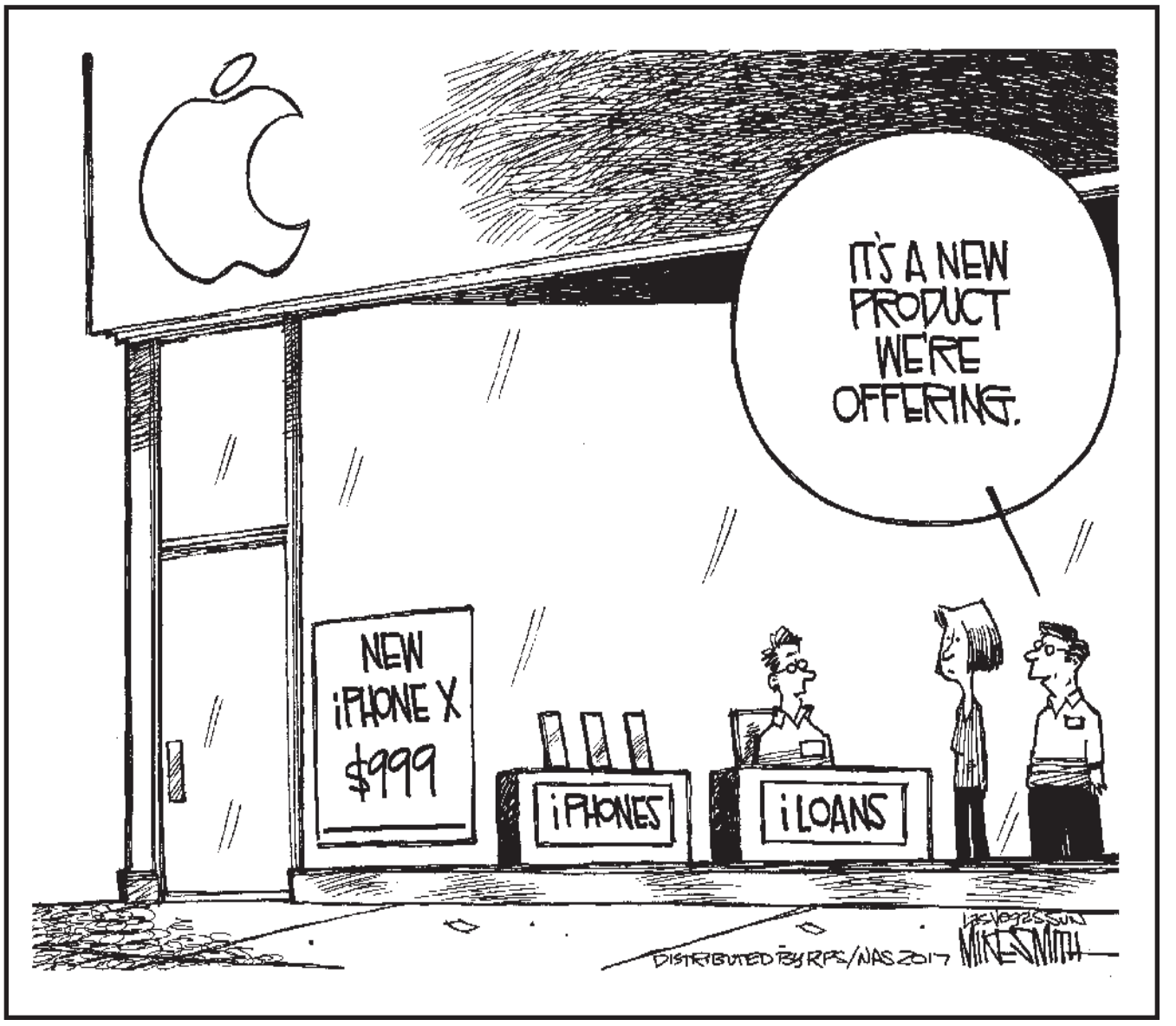
China's lack of preparation, warning, and response to many earthquakes and flooding causes local anger and confusion. A 2008 Sichuan province earthquake killed nearly 70,000 people, but the government reaction was to shield failure and silence critics. Dissent is hidden, if not outright crushed.

Disaster avoidance and denial are not exclusive authoritarian national traits, however. Following a recent earthquake and tsunami, Japan's government and TEPCO power generating company denied the dangers and misled the public about nuclear fallout from a failing Fukushima nuclear power plant. Apologies followed, but the damage was already done.

Social media picks up some of the information slack, but rumor fills in where facts are muddled. In environments where information vacuums exist, misinformation and falsehood find fertile ground. People get misled. Confusion kills. What can be done to prevent bad information from worsening the effect of bad news?

Soviet or Chinese-style bad-news boycotts are a non-starter. But social media platforms with billions of members—many of them trusting, if not outright gullible—should build fail-safe information systems to protect the public. Television broadcasters have long used 4-10 second delays to prevent inappropriate or inaccurate live material from going on-air. Social media need to use some of these same techniques. Whether artificial intelligence, human editors, or machine learning to prevent rumor and

***See HARVEY on Next Page***




## Pacific ties

**By ED STEPHENS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.*

I topped the crest of a hill in the late evening. Through the windshield I noticed a bright star over the horizon. Capella! Capella's appearance means that summertime is slipping away. We've only got one more quarter to plow the conceptual ground for 2018. On this note many people on Saipan are facing the same old conflicting currents. On one hand, Saipan is a hard place to do business, but on the other hand it's sitting on the doorstep of Asia's decades-long rise to global preeminence.

Oh, the opportunities. Ah, the problems.

This tension has yanked people in two directions for 25 years now. The trick, of course, is to enjoy the advantages of Saipan without getting sunk by the drawbacks. I never had to reinvent the wheel on this count. I just noted how the smart set played things. Like anything else in the real world, a good approach doesn't assure success, but it can at least nudge the odds in the right direction.

What I noticed is that the savvy folks, as much as they liked Saipan, didn't put all their eggs in one zori. They had action rolling in other places as well. And, in fact, they typically spent a lot of time and money traveling.

It wasn't strictly a matter of hedging bets. Anybody can hedge bets. What takes some skill (and money, and energy, and patience, and even some luck, too) is spreading out projects so they mutually enhance each other. That makes sense if you think about it the right way. After all, we can walk a lot faster on two legs, which are nominally opposing forces, than we can on one leg.

Paradoxically, then, the people who have held out the longest on Saipan, and who seem to be happiest with the place, are often the people who didn't bet too heavily on it. That's not cynicism; it is, by contrast, a positive outlook, since it provides a real-world way of making a better situation.

If we confine our outlook for the future to a rough extrapolation of the past, the opportunities for Pacific trade are going to keep growing and are going to spread into more and more places. The "Pacific rim" reaches ever farther from the actual rim.

Las Vegas, for example, is hundreds of miles from the Pacific, but, thanks to Chinese tourism it's very much a part of Pacific trade. There's an entire Chinese district there now comprised of businesses and homes for those who own those businesses. This is an entire layer back-stopping the visible surface of see-it-on-the-street tourism.

Vegas is an obvious example, but the nature of business activity is that it's largely mundane, invisible, and quiet. For example, I know one guy from Saipan's business circles who now lives on the Atlantic coast and markets handmade goods sourced in the West Pacific. He was a popular guy when he lived on Saipan—honest, friendly, and reliable—so he had a large network of people to collaborate with once he decided to broaden his net.

An economics professor will tell you that people work for money, which, of course, it true, but some people also work just to help each other out and because they'd rather have an interesting project to join than not have an interesting project to join.

After all, even on the warmest tropical beaches you can spend only so much time drinking from blenders and searching for lost shakers of salt. OK, I'll admit this observation doesn't apply to everybody. Either way, though, you do have to choose the company that you keep. And, likewise, you either are, or you aren't, someone who gets calls at 10:30pm asking for help with a business or technical problem. I'm not promoting either camp; I'm just pointing out that they attract different breeds of campers.

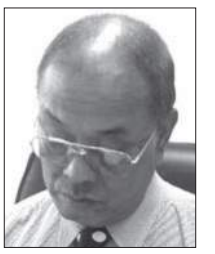
The action you see from the shores of Saipan is, of course, so familiar that it may seem unremarkable, but many people in the mainland don't have the benefit of this perspective. In the mainland some hardy souls want to jump into the West Pacific's working world but they don't really know where, or how, to start. Over the decades I've received my share of queries along these lines. But that's the newbie end of the spectrum, and, hence, a topic for another time, since today I just wanted to mention what I've seen from the more seasoned players.

The stars, for me, resonate more than the calendar does, so 2018 seemed like a vague notion until the heavens prodded me into action. There are a lot of strands to be tied between East and West, and I hope that next year is a busy year.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# September: Cultural Month

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

September was proclaimed "cultural heritage" month to honor the cultures of these islands. As we mull over it, it also presents a number of vital issues we've opted to avoid or acquiesce since recent past.

In other words, we lack the conviction to probe the issue to the hilt to secure a realistic view how destructive agents of change have become a permanent fixture in our living room. In short, our traditional bull cart now pulls the beast rather than the reverse.

What are these agents of change and didn't the NMI simply acquiesce their existence, singing "que sera"? We've morphed from the slot machine era, supplanted by poker and now casino. Throughout the period there's the accompanying mounting use of potent drugs NMI-wide.

In the late '60s, we welcomed investments as it settled in our community as partners. However, these same investors have taken an exodus, selling everything they had as they take to jet ways. In the process, the new investors here locked in their single most vital goal: money! Screw other primary issues relating to local partnership.

It also alienated the community as to openly show that our exclusion isn't anything to be concerned about. And so we're victims of investments that couldn't care less what becomes of the permanent hosts of these isles for as long as they make money. It is an issue we didn't quite read in advance nor do we seem enthusiastic dissecting the beast for our protection down the stretch.

Was it ever cultural to gamble away scarce familial resources? Isn't this contrary to our elderly's advice that we save some for that rainy day? Is addiction to drugs and gambling the new modern fad among cultural paragons preaching vacuous indigenous issues just so they exploit the public trough? And isn't the polished platitude detrimental for the innocent over the long haul? When do we stand up against these indigenous and investment flakes?

For those in government assigned the fate of the indigenous people you must address gambling and drug addiction and is the current investment atmosphere of total exclusion the way to move forward in strengthening the fast eroding cultural traditions of the islands? Don't chance half-cocked rationalizations just so you could sound relevant or some suspiciously intelligent marshland professor. Get down to the real business of ensuring the perpetuation of cultural strength that provides edification to our way of life.

**Health:** Federal policy forbids allowing foreign doctors from practicing medicine here without meeting AMA requirements. Yet we send our patients to the Philippines. I didn't know hypocrisy could be fine-tuned into an art.

Moreover, the health of the indigenous population has deteriorated with Type II diabetes, heart issues and now a myriad of cancer. These conditions would feed into the medical referral program as cost piles up by the millions. Any plans to reinvest some of these funds at CHC?

**Funnies:** For about 25 years, I was an active musician that included backing singers and dancers between here and New York. I had to overcome two major hurdles: work diligently to improve my level of musicianship and dealing with artists who needed backing for an evening show.

Initially, it wasn't a walk in the park thing. Hell, foreign musicians are good with standard songs, swing, jazz and Latin music. I had to learn my guitar chords just to accompany wind blown instruments or professional singers. Along the way, I learned what entails the world of a professional musician.

Amateurish inadvertent performance includes tuning our instruments on stage. Then we begin the next number when the ship arrives from the Northern Islands. It's the usual island grand mañana. It never occurred to us that we were hired to play, not tune our instruments on stage. Ignorance?

Remembered a good group of musicians and dancers on a dinner cruise boat that sails around the lagoon before sunset. Even I take pride in what the group has put together by way of local music and dances. Then a few weeks later the group no longer strums ukuleles and guitars. I asked management what happened. Said the boss: "Had to fire them for stealing from tourists." *Dios mihu*!

**Dance:** Often, I'd quiz why we've never seen Chamorro dance alongside our adopted cultural "hula" from Polynesia. Was it ignorance or the lack of it? In fandango parties I've seen the batsu, lotis, and mestisa or Spanish-Chamorro hula. Hula? Yep! We say "cultural" as a single pill cures all inadequacies!

The old master dance instructors in Carolinian have also sailed into the sunset. But they leave behind the indelible traditional dances, picked up by younger folks. It still is a strong part of their traditional dance repertoire. Great!

Over the last three decades, everything in what we know as adopted Chamorro dances have sailed into the sunset. It's now reggae giving island super wide bodies the chance to swing around the stove, washers and BBQ pit. And we come back and call it "cultural." *Dios mihu*!

**Sharing:** If anything, islanders throughout the Pacific share a commonality: communal sharing, be it food or lending a hand to a neighbor doing home extension.

Here at home, preparing for a fandango (wedding) party is where assignments are split into firewood collection, fishing, slaughter and butcher of animals, pastries, among others. Cost has killed this once customary wedding preparation.

It included the final word of go ahead for the couple's wedding the next day in what's known as *komplimentu*. The parents of the groom present the wedding dress and ring to the bride. This is where the fandango kicks off! It's now all a part of history!

There are federal laws that instantly annihilate even food delicacies. It's good to review if these impositions aren't in violation of indigenous rights to self-government. It's on our side of the court where due diligence snoozes.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# BOE, PSS killing the culture

When I was interviewed for the commissioner position at PSS, I told the selection committee at that time that Praxis could literally kill our teacher workforce. Everyone now knows our teacher workforce is in terrible shape. I offered the suggestion that we create feeder colleges and universities and to follow Guam's model and create our own test to try and support and save some of teacher workforce but readers already know that the many of those in power don't want to listen to Ambrose Bennett because they didn't like something I wrote. To that, I say grow up and get over it as you are making students and even the CNMI suffer from your failure to listen objectively! We still have a teacher shortage a decade later after my interview and there have been classes with as many as 40 students with no teacher aide, which is totally ludicrous for the effective teaching of the sciences and arts. Only vocational courses are capable of accommodating so many students as long as they have the room, support staff and the equipment for these hands-on educational experience.

It was the bilingual teachers who suffered the most as they had no real background in the required history, math, and subject matter in Praxis. Praxis was meant for teachers who have taken a litany of coursework in the fields of arts and sciences, not Chamorro or Carolinian. Needless to say, the bilingual teachers never had a chance and, yes, I wrote about this several times so it is just another I told you so to BOE and PSS.

PSS and BOE are literally contributing to the death of the local language and cultures when our school system should be the leader, just like the school system should be a leader in the CW transition by changing to an academic/vocational institution. Their problem at PSS is they just don't know how and wouldn't let me tell them when the U. S. Department of Education actually sent me to Mexico to find this kind of solution for the CNMI.

Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant John Tagabuel is right to be concerned about the simple solution of a test and policy changes. I hope this opinion will help but, if I have learned anything about BOE and PSS, it is that you can only influence them to do something by law as they don't pay any attention to complaints with their autonomy status, which is proving to be a real mistake because our leaders in the Legislature are afraid to tell PSS to do anything. They are quick to create some legislation for the BOE and PSS but just try and get them to do something that will make BOE and PSS change! I suggest Mr. Tagabuel take his concerns and his complaint to the Legislature's education committees in both chambers and maybe someone will finally listen and force BOE and PSS to change their policies as they are the biggest contributors to the language and culture dying a slow death one student at a time! The preservation of language and culture is purely an educational practice that PSS is not practicing. Wake up, locals, before your language and culture is literally dead.

**Ambrose M. Bennett**
*Kagman, Saipan*

## HARVEY

*From Page 14*

inaccuracies from gaining immediate currency is not for the public to discern, but the public needs to consider a regulatory fix.

Worldwide, however, crisis management and warning systems do not suffer from too much, too quick or grossly inaccurate information. In fact, most global disasters are neither reported on nor actively hidden as the majority of natural crises go unnoticed by nearly everyone who is unaffected. Far-flung countries suffering from widespread disaster actively and regularly seek international attention—often to no avail—in the hopes they can attract global empathy and assistance. These nations are not only victimized by disaster, they are victims of a distracted world, suffering quietly alone without news coverage or celebrity support to spotlight their plight. These overwhelmed countries experience what aid professionals call "silent disasters."

Silent disasters represent the 91 percent of worldwide natural emergencies that regularly go unreported in any mass media, according to the International Red Cross. Right now, for example, South Asia is experiencing much greater death and destruction than that wrought by Hurricane's Harvey and Irma.

Bangladesh, Nepal and India are struggling to get noticed or receive basic help for the reported 41 million people directly affected by recent monsoon flooding and landslides that killed nearly a thousand people. The United Nations reports these South Asia floods also destroyed tens of thousands of homes, schools and hospitals. The scale of this human suffering is staggering, but the story is easily overlooked and understandably underplayed in America while parts of Florida are still dark, deserted and drying out.

Natural and manmade disasters can fully overtake a nation's attention, be totally denied or never make it onto the radar of a global public's consciousness. The one universal truth is that, ultimately, everyone suffers.

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

**TODAY**
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
▲87° ▼77°

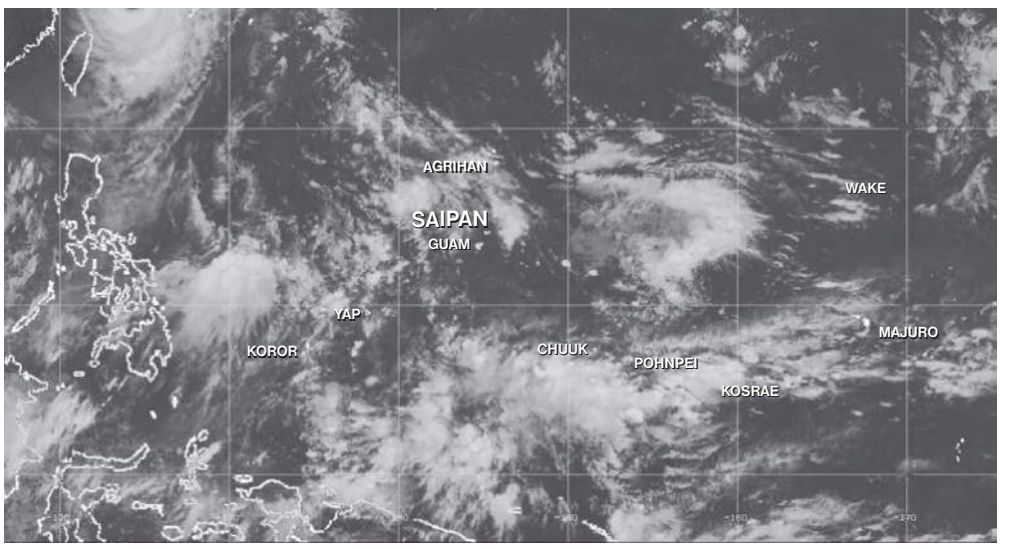
**SATURDAY**
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.
▲87° ▼77°

**SUNDAY**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼79°

**MONDAY**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼79°

**TUESDAY**
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼78°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 5:35 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2017**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change made to the forecast. A surface ridge stretched across the Marianas this morning. The axis of the ridge was evident in VAD wind data from late Wednesday night and early this morning, as winds were light and variable last night but became steadily northeast as through the morning. With the ridge over the area expect isolated showers and thunderstorms today and tonight. A surface trough and a upper-level low, now east of 150E, will move west and bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the Marianas Friday and Friday night. These two weather features will be close enough to the local area to keep isolated showers and thunderstorms in the forecast Saturday and Saturday night. Another surface trough may bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the area next Tuesday and Wednesday.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 83° / 77° |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 85° / 77° |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 85° / 80° |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 87° / 79° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 86° / 76° |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 86° / 76° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 86° / 81° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly Sunny | 61° / 52° |
| Beijing | Ptly Cloudy | 84° / 63° |
| Hong Kong | Showers | 91° / 82° |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 87° / 75° |
| London | Showers | 61° / 45° |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | 74° / 63° |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 90° / 79° |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | 54° / 37° |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | 87° / 80° |
| New York | Showers | 82° / 68° |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | 82° / 66° |
| Paris | Thunderstorms | 63° / 45° |
| Busan | Showers | 75° / 72° |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | 79° / 66° |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | 87° / 68° |
| San Francisco | Sunny | 68° / 57° |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | 81° / 61° |
| Tokyo | Cloudy | 73° / 64° |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | 83° / 67° |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 1:42 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.74 |
| 9:19 AM | LOW TIDE | -0.09 |
| 4:37 PM | HIGH TIDE | 1.73 |
| 9:57 PM | LOW TIDE | 1.13 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:05 AM | 6:18 PM |
| Saturday | 6:05 AM | 6:18 PM |
| Sunday | 6:05 AM | 6:17 PM |
| Monday | 6:05 AM | 6:16 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:05 AM | 6:15 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 1:02 AM | 2:15 PM | - |
| Saturday | 2:01 AM | 3:11 PM | - |
| Sunday | 3:01 AM | 4:04 PM | - |
| Monday | 3:59 am | 4:53 pm | - |
| Tuesday | 4:56 am | 5:39 pm | - |

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6394 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA6392 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA6390 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA6398 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA6396 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW308 | 1:35am | 5:20am | 2, 3, 4 |
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| TW308 | 2:35am | 6:20am | 6, 7 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| ZE582 | 3:40am | 7:00am | Daily |
| 7C3403 | 4:45am | 8:30am | Daily |
| LJ652 | 4:45am | 8:35am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| 7C3401 | 4:00pm | 7:45pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 3:10am | 6:10am | 1, 7 |
| 7C3451 | 4:00am | 7:05am | 4, 5 |

### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 5:20am | 8:00am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

### SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD396 | 7:00am | 10:25am | 1 |
| JD396 | 4:50pm | 8:15pm | 4 |

### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:15pm | 7:05pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA6394/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:00am | 1, 2, 4, 6via GUM |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:15am | 3, 5, 7 via GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 8:50pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 9:10pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6391/193 | 1:30pm | 10:40pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 8:50pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA6390/193 | 2:20pm | 10:40pm | 2 via GUM-ROR |

### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HX077 | 2:00am | 5:00am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:40am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UO43 | 4:40am | 8:10am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA6391/159 | 1:30pm | 9:50pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6390/159 | 2:20pm | 9:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6393 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA6395 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA6397 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA6399 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| TW307 | 7:05pm | 12:35am+1 | 1, 2, 3 |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| TW307 | 8:05pm | 1:35am+1 | 5, 6 |
| OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| ZE581 | 9:00pm | 2:40am+1 | Daily |
| LJ651 | 10:00pm | 3:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 4 |
| 7C3452 | 9:05pm | 2:10am+1 | 3, 6, 7 |

### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:20pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

### HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD395 | 8:10am | 3:30pm | 4 |
| JD395 | 10:05pm | 5:30am+1 | 7 |

### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:25pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:20am | 3:00pm | Daily |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/6397 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA192/6395 | 9:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA184/6395 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| PR110/UA6395 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA184/6395 | 11:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:20pm | 12:30am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UO42 | 6:10pm | 1:00am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA116/6395 | 10:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 7:30AM | 8:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:30AM | 12:00PM | Daily |
| 1303 | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Daily |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 8:15AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 1:45PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3103 | 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Daily |

### ROTA TO GUAM

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15PM | 12:45PM | Daily |

### GUAM TO ROTA

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 1:00PM | 1:30PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 1202 | 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00PM | 12:15PM | Daily |
| 1207 | 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 1208 | 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 1209 | 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 1210 | 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 1211 | 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 1212 | 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 2103 | 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 2104 | 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 2105 | 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 2106 | 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 2107 | 12:30PM | 12:45PM | Daily |
| 2108 | 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2109 | 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 2110 | 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 2111 | 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 2112 | 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 2113 | 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

# 'Uprooted' to headline Green Gala

Uprooted members Tyler Yoshiimoto, A.J. "Tayo" Mettao, Joshua "ZosZengZung" Castro, and Alvin S. Tagabuel pose with MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joshua "ZosZengZung" Castro and Uprooted will be featuring original, locally-grown music at the sold-out Green Gala of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance today, Sept. 15.

Roberta Guerrero, executive director of MINA, stated that MINA is proud to feature these very talented musicians who bring a passion to their work in support of MINA's conservation efforts. Through their original lyrics and music, Uprooted will perform their call to action to preserve the environment.

This year's Green Gala is sold out, and MINA would like to express sincere appreciation to all of the support from the community. In addition to Uprooted, MINA is happy to announce the sponsorship of major sponsors Imperial Pacific International Ltd. and PHI Pharmacy.

For more information, contact 233-REEF (7333). ***(PR)***

# United donates ticket to US to Green Gala

United Airlines is sponsoring today's Green Gala by donating a roundtrip ticket to any destination in the U.S. that will be raffled off at the event.

The Green Gala is a signature fundraising event of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance.

"United Airlines' donation raises the excitement of the Green Gala and the raffle featuring the roundtrip ticket to the Mainland," said Fran Castro, MINA board of directors chair. "We are very thankful for the company's generosity!"

"For over 12 years, MINA has been on the forefront of environmental stewardship in the Marianas," said Paula Monk, United's senior sales manager for Guam and Micronesia. "United Airlines is proud to be an emerald sponsor of the Green Gala, and we look forward to partnering with MINA in other activities that promote conservation." ***(PR)***

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Deep fried fish with rice, vegetables and soup of the day
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Thursday, September 21st, 2017

8:00am—12:00pm

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Presented by:

CNMI Division of Revenue & Taxation and the CNMI Division of Customs Services

This workshop is designed to help you, as a small business owner, understand and meet your federal and local tax obligations. The training is designed to help small businesses in the CNMI comply with the state's basic tax and licensing requirements. In additional to describing the types of licenses and taxes that are applicable in the CNMI, a few other agencies impose taxes and require licenses are identified. This training will discuss tax requirements and compliance administered by the CNMI Department of Finance.

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For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018 or visit www.pacificsbdc.com

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# We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 16TH COMMEMORATION OF SEPTEMBER 11TH ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

***Community is invited to visit our Field of Heroes in Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Tinian's field will be retired on the 17th, while Saipan's field will be on Monday, the 18th, and Rota will be Friday, the 22nd***

Saipan's Community Heroes

Tinian's Community Heroes

Rota's Community Heroes saluting the flag.

TanHoldings President Jerry Tan

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas

Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig

DFEMS participating in the Freedom Walk.

DPS 21 Gun Salute team who participated in both Saipan and Tinian events.

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**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
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**Ralph DLG. Torres**
Governor

**Victor B. Hocog**
Lt. Governor

# NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

*This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.*

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (Credits) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The Credits are available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office and website. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate Credits. NMHC may allocate **$650,067.00** in Credits for the 2017 program year.

**Application for Credits**

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the Credits should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at www.nmhcgov.net.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **$2,500.00 Application Fee** at NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, October 13, 2017**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **October 30, 2017**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **4:30 pm November 13, 2017**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **November/December 2017** Board Meeting.

**Notification of Awards**

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving Credits thirty (30) days following the November/December 2017 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

# Yap to host canoe summit

Dr. Eric Metzgar, left, and pwo master navigator Ali Haleyalur. E. METZGAR

**COLONIA, Yap**—The Yap Visitors Bureau has announced that a canoe summit will be held on Dec. 7, 2017, in Colonia, Yap prior to the annual canoe festival scheduled for Dec. 8 and 9.

Pwo master navigator Ali Haleyalur will moderate the conference that will be sponsored by the Yap Visitors Bureau, Yap Traditional Navigation Society, and Waa'gey (Seafaring Future) of Yap.

According to Micronesian scholar and filmmaker Dr. Eric Metzgar, organizer of the summit, the one-day conference "will provide the opportunity to discuss issues involved with the safeguarding of seafaring traditions as shared heritage in the region."

The conference will be held at the Small Business Development Center in Colonia and will consist of activity reports by practitioners in the region and research reports by experts in the field of canoe culture in the Pacific.

Following the canoe summit, the annual canoe festival will take place at the Yap Living History Museum in Colonia and will include a parade of traditional sailing canoes, dances, skills demonstrations, and a marketplace offering food and handicrafts for sale.

Metzgar will provide the keynote address and present his video, *A Voyaging Odyssey*, featuring highlights from the 2010 ocean voyages captained by pwo master navigator Ali Haleyalur and master canoe carver chief Bruno Tharngan.

The ocean crossings "rediscovered" the ancient, traditional sea routes between the islands of Lamotrek, Guam, Yap, and Palau.

A photographic exhibit of Yap's seafaring history along with other exhibits will be on display and visitors will have the rare opportunity to taste the traditional offertory, voyaging, and celebratory foods connected with successful long sea voyages.

For more information, visit www.visityap.com or email Tom Tamangmow at the Yap Visitors Bureau at tomyvb@mail.fm or by phone at (691) 350-2298. ***(PR)***

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**State Rehabilitation Council**
**&**
**Statewide Independent Living Council**
**"Yes I Can!"**
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# PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council and Statewide Independent Living Council will jointly hold their FY 2017 Fourth General Membership Meeting on Friday, September 22, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Pacific Islands Club – Charley's Cabaret
Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

## AGENDA

**I. Call to Order**
**II. Roll Call**
**III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of September 22, 2017**
**IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes:**
A. SRC Second General Membership Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2017
B. SRC Third General Membership Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2017
C. SILC Third General Membership Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2017
**V. Reports**
A. SRC Chairperson
B. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
C. Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson
D. Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
E. SILC Chairperson
F. CLI Executive Director
G. OVR Director
**VI. Action Items**
A. Ratify/Approval of SRC FY 2018 Resource Plan
B. Ratify/Approval of SILC FY 2018 Resource Plan
C. SRC Election of Officers
D. SILC Election of Officers
**VII. Consumer Forum**
**VIII. Miscellaneous/Announcements**
**IX. Adjournment**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodation such as large print or sign language interpreter, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6549 (TTY), at least, five days before the meeting.

/s/ ELIZABETH S. ADA
*SRC Chairperson*

/s/EMETERIO S. FITIAL
*SILC Chairperson*

**Publication of this notice is paid for by Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), Administration for Community Living (ACL).**

DPL

**SSFM CNMI, LLC**
Project Managers • Planners • Engineers
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# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## CNMI COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC LAND USE PLAN UPDATE FOR ROTA, TINIAN, SAIPAN, AND THE NORTHERN ISLANDS

***A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS***

The Department of Public Lands (DPL) has recently retained SSFM CNMI, LLC along with their sub-consultants, Chris Hart & Partners, Inc. and John M. Knox & Associates, Inc., to update the CNMI's Public Land Use Plan in order to satisfy Public Law 15-02. This effort is intended to incorporate the public's interests as well as government agencies and groups representing commercial interests.

The first of two public hearings regarding the CNMI Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update for Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands have been scheduled for each municipality as follows:

1) Municipality of Rota
   a. Date – Monday, September 18, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Rota Mayor's Office Conference Hall, Rota
2) Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
   a. Date – Tuesday, September 19, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria, Tinian
3) Municipality of Saipan
   a. Date – Wednesday, September 20, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe, Saipan
4) Municipality of the Northern Islands
   a. Date – Thursday, September 21, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Northern Islands Mayor's Office, Bldg. 1345, Capitol Hill, Saipan

Comments on the Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update may be submitted orally or in writing at any of the scheduled public hearings. Persons unable to attend, including off-island residents, may download a stakeholder survey form from (http://www.dpl.gov.mp/land-use-plan-resources/) and submit it to rreyes@ssfmcnmillc.com and jhart@chpmaui.com by September 29, 2017 to ensure that your interests are heard and considered. After the public hearings, all comments and feedback from the public will be compiled for incorporation into the updated public land use plan. Therefore, the public is encouraged to attend any of the scheduled public hearings. Before finalization of the plan update, there will be a second public hearing for all the municipalities mentioned above. Information will follow.

If you have any questions regarding the public hearings, please contact SSFM CNMI at (670) 233-7770.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53 • Facebook Address: facebook.com/DPLCNMI • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp

## RFP17 – RED001
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2017**

### "LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN PUERTO RICO, SAIPAN"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercial development of the following public land:

- Lot No. 117 D 06, containing an area approximately 6,221 square meters, more or less, in Puerto Rico, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If hardcopy is preferred, a .50 cents charge per page will assessed, however, full package of RFP is available to download at www.dpl.gov.mp or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by email. The request must reference **"RFP17-RED001 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN PUERTO RICO, SAIPAN"**. Requests should be sent to the address shown below.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on September 29, 2017 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number(s): (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a "Question and Answer" format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary
Department of Public Lands

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53 • Facebook Address: facebook.com/DPLCNMI • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp

## RFP17 – RED002
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2017**

### "LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN TANAPAG, SAIPAN"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercial development of the following public land:

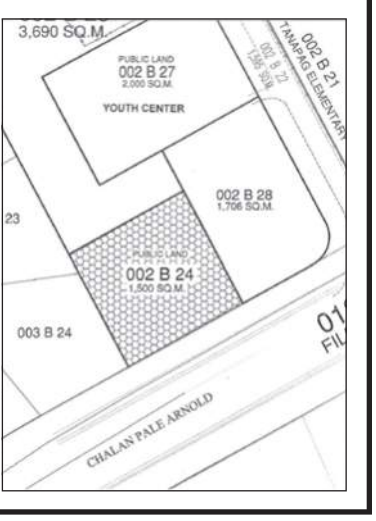
- Lot No. 002 B 24, containing an area approximately 1,500 square meters, more or less, in Tanapag, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If hardcopy is preferred, a .50 cents charge per page will assessed, however, full package of RFP is available to download at www.dpl.gov.mp or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by email. The request must reference **"RFP17-RED002 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN TANAPAG, SAIPAN"**. Requests should be sent to the address shown below.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on September 29, 2017 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number(s): (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp




Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a "Question and Answer" format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary
Department of Public Lands

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## RFP17 – RED003
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2017**

### "LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES IN SONGSONG, ROTA"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercial development of the following public land:

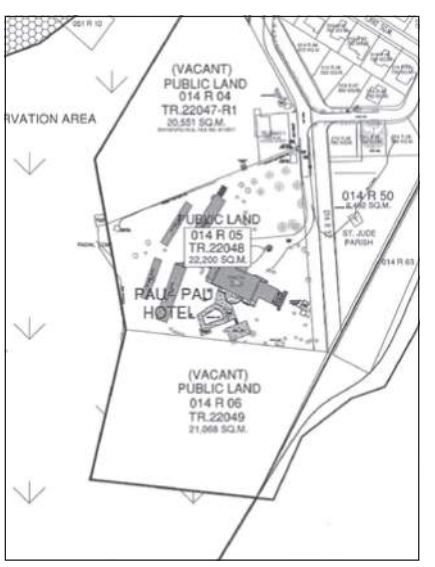
- Lot No. 014 R 05, containing an area approximately 22,200 square meters, more or less, in Songsong, Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.
- Lot No. 014 R 06, containing an area approximately 21,068 square meters, more or less, in Songsong, Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If hardcopy is preferred, a .50 cents charge per page will assessed, however, full package of RFP is available to download at www.dpl.gov.mp or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by email. The request must reference **"RFP17-RED003 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS IN SONGSONG, ROTA"**. Requests should be sent to the address shown below.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on September 29, 2017 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number(s): (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp




Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a "Question and Answer" format.

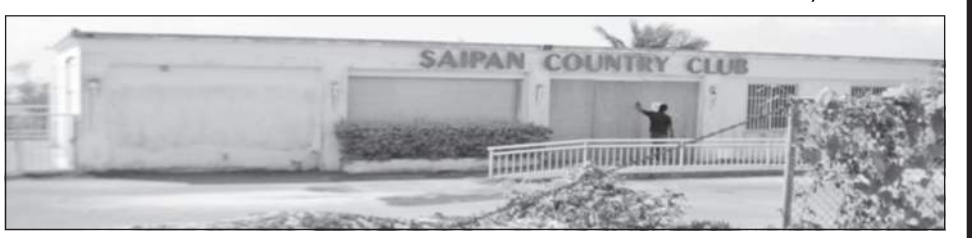
The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary
Department of Public Lands

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53 • Facebook Address: facebook.com/DPLCNMI • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp

## RFP17 – RED004
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2017**

### "LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN CHALAN KIYA, SAIPAN"




Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of commercial leasing and developing the following public land:

- Lot 1794NEW, containing an area of approximately 29,899 square meters, more or less, in Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If a hardcopy is preferred, a .50 cents charge per page will be assessed, however, full package of RFP is available to download at www.dpl.gov.mp or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by mail. The request must reference **"RFP17-RED004 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN CHALAN KIYA, SAIPAN"**. Requests should be sent to the address shown below.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on September 29, 2017 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a "Question and Answer" format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary
Department of Public Lands

# Business

## Home rebuilding: A long and costly burden for storm victims

By ALEXANDRA OLSON AND ALEX VEIGA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

With floodwaters nearing knee height, Arlene Estle fled to the upstairs of the Houston house where she's lived for 50 years and raised four children. It was many hours later before her son-in-law arrived by boat to rescue her.

Her flooded home didn't fare so well. It could be a year, her contractor warned her, before she can return. Until then, she'll have to find some place to rent.

"I'm going to be 83," Estle said one recent morning as her daughter and housekeeper helped try to disinfect her belongings. "This is just a life-changing thing for me to face with making so many decisions. It's just overwhelming."

Estle is among the fortunate ones. She has flood insurance and a longtime contractor who can start work soon. Most victims of Harvey have neither. Months will be spent struggling to assess damage, navigate federal assistance and apply for loans. Then, victims will have to compete for contractors who have already put prospective clients on waiting lists.

All told, it could take years for some people to rebuild, if they can do it at all. The same could be true of many victims of Hurricane Irma, which caused its own catastrophic damage in Florida, though less than initially feared.

For anyone who needs to repair or rebuild a home or business, the back-to-back hurricanes coincided with a national shortage of carpenters, electricians, drywall installers and other skilled workers. Many construction workers left the industry after the housing bubble burst a decade ago and haven't returned.

With fewer younger workers entering the business, the average age of some construction trades has reached well into middle age. There were 255,000 unfilled construction sector jobs recorded in June, according to the National Association of Home Builders.

On top of the worker shortage, homeowners will pay elevated prices for materials, which had already been rising this year.

"The labor shortage is going to make this take longer, but more importantly, it's going to be more expensive than people think because labor rates are going to go up dramatically," said John Burns, CEO of John Burns Real Estate Consulting, a housing industry research firm.

## Sanders would make government health care role even bigger

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—In an animated, campaign-style rally, Sen. Bernie Sanders unwrapped his plan to remake the nation's convoluted health care system into federally run health insurance Wednesday—a costly proposal embraced by liberal activists hoping to steer the Democratic Party in upcoming elections.

The Vermont independent's plan would hand government a dominant role in insuring Americans, a crucial step, he said, in guaranteeing health care for all. Census Bureau data this week showed the proportion of people lacking policies falling to 8.8 percent last year under "Obamacare," the lowest level ever recorded, but he called it an "international disgrace" that not all Americans have coverage.

Though Sanders' plan is going nowhere in the current GOP-controlled Congress, he drew a big crowd to a packed and electrified Senate hearing room.

Hours earlier, Republican senators unveiled their own last-ditch, long-shot plan to scuttle President Barack Obama's 2010 statute and practically begged the White House to help.

"Pick up the phone" and ask governors to support the repeal effort, said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., aiming his remarks at President Donald Trump. "Tell them this matters to you, that you weren't kidding about repealing and replacing Obamacare, that you actually meant it."

Shortly afterward, Trump issued a statement saying "I sincerely hope" the effort by Graham and three other GOP senators will succeed.

The waning desire of GOP lawmakers to revive their failed effort to scrap Obama's law contrasted with growing, though wary, Democratic support for Sanders' bill. It has attracted 16 co-sponsors, one-third of all Senate Democrats, though most are from safely Democratic states.

"Today we begin the long and difficult struggle to end the international disgrace of the United States, our great nation, being the only major country on Earth not to guarantee health care to all," Sanders declared.

Though his bill has no chance in the current Congress, the issue is enthusiastically backed by large segments of a Democratic Party hoping to capture House control in the 2018 elections. Sanders caucuses with Democrats and unexpectedly gave Hillary Clinton a tough run for the party's presidential nomination last year.


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**CUC-RFP-17-037**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES - REPLACEMENT OF 1 ENGINE SYSTEM - SAIPAN**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the Consultancy Services including procurement support, project management, engineering and design services of the Replacement of 1 Engine System (No. 8 –10 to13 MW, capacity) at CUC Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Consultant shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of verifiable experience and a track record of designing, modification and installation of diesel fuel or dual fuel power plants, among other attributes noted in the RFP documents.

*The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission CPUC.*

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **September 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal and hence the attendance of the pre-proposal meeting and site visit is mandatory.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-17-037– Consultancy Services - Replacement of 1 Engine System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 29, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 20, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to William Gilmore, CUC Deputy Executive Director via email william.gilmore@cugov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Utility Coordinator for Power via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**
Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.**
Purchasing Administrator



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**
**CUC-IFB-17-027**

**ROOF REPLACEMENT AT DRUM STORAGE AREA**
**POWER PLANT NO. 1 SAIPAN**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of roofing material at the Drum Storage Berm, Power Plant 1, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the removal of corroded roofing and its replacement with new material. Electrical work for installation of lighting and power outlets at the berm is also requested for this task.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **September 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-027 Roof Replacement Drum Storage Area Power Plant No. 1 Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 29, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and Max Simian, CUC Technical Manager for Oil – via email max.simian@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY CAMACHO**
**Executive Director**

**MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.**
**Purchasing Administrator**

# Nation

## 8 die at Florida nursing home in Irma's sweltering aftermath

**HOLLYWOOD, Fla.** (AP)— Eight patients at a sweltering nursing home died after Hurricane Irma knocked out the air conditioning, raising fears Wednesday about the safety of Florida's 4 million senior citizens amid power outages that could last for days.

Hollywood Police Chief Tom Sanchez said investigators believe the deaths at the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills were heat-related, and added: "The building has been sealed off and we are conducting a criminal investigation."

Gov. Rick Scott called on Florida emergency workers to immediately check on all nursing homes to make sure patients are safe, and he vowed to punish anyone found culpable in the deaths.

"This situation is unfathomable," he said.

The home said in a statement that the hurricane had knocked out a transformer that powered the AC.

The five women and three men ranged in age from 70 to 99.

Exactly how the deaths happened was under investigation, with Sanchez saying authorities have not ruled anything out, including carbon monoxide poisoning from generators. He also said investigators will look into how many windows were open.

Across the street from the stifling nursing home sat a fully air-conditioned hospital, Memorial Regional.

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**
**DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**
Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

**As of September 15, 2017**
**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION | LOCATION | TYPE | STATUS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Kraig Church | 07/07/2017 SSm-2017-X-078 | Construction of Retaining Wall | Laolao Bay, Saipan | Shoreline | Approved 09/12/2017 |
| 2. Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc. | 08/07/2017 | In-Water Maintenance | Lower Base, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef SLR-2017-X-084 | Approved 08/15/2017 |
| 3. Auto Marine, Inc. | 08/11/2017 SPI-2017-X-087 | Drydock | South Seaplane Ramp, LB, Saipan | Ports & Industrial | Approved 08/15/2017 |
| 4. Marianas Visitors Authority | 08/14/2017 SSm-2017-X-088 | 4th Annual Marianas Music Festival | Chalan Kanoa, District 4 | Shoreline | Approved 08/15/2017 |
| 5. CNMI Labor Day Committee | 08/30/2017 SSm-2017-X-101 | Annual Labor Day Celebration | Garapan, Saipan | Shoreline | Approved 08/30/2017 |
| 6. Saipan Crewboats, Inc. | 08/30/2017 SPI-2017-X-102 | Drydock | Able Dock, LB | Ports & Industrial | Approved 09/05/2017 |
| 7. Crystal Star Corporation | 08/30/2017 SLRm-2017-X-103 | Marine Sports-New | Marpi, Grotto, Saipan Snorkeling | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 09/06/2017 |
| 8. Young Jin Corporation Dba The Salty Life Dive | 08/30/2017 SLR-2017-X-104 | Marine Sports-New SCUBA Operation | All Dive Sites, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 09/08/2017 |
| 9. Li Feng (U.S.A.) Corporation Dba Ocean Marine Sports | 08/31/2017 SLR-2017-X-105 | Marine Sports-New Snorkeling | Marpi, Grotto, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 09/06/2017 |
| 10. Marianas Visitors Authority | 09/05/2017 SSm-2017-X-106 | 3rd Annual International Festival of Cultures | Garapan Fishing Base, | Shoreline Saipan | Approved 09/06/2017 |
| 11. Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc. | 09/06/2017 SPI-2017-X-107 | Drydock | South Seaplane Ramp Lower Base, Saipan | Ports & Industrial | Approved 09/07/2017 |

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

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**DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES**
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
**OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR**
Chalan Piao, P.O. Box 501000 CK., Saipan MP 96950

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA) is soliciting request for proposals for FY 2018 Consolidated Block Grant (CBG) under the spending authority of the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG). Funds will be sub-granted to an agency/non-profit organization in the CNMI upon meeting the specific qualifications/provisions of the said funding through the 2018 CBG State Plan.

The purpose of the CBG funding is to make funding available to agency/non- profit organization for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low- income communities and the empowerment of low- income families to become fully self- sufficient. The special intent of this funding will be to fund projects that will provide services to the community who are considered economically disadvantaged.

All proposals must be submitted to the Division of Youth Services, Community Services Office no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, October 09, 2017***. A copy of the grant general requirements/conditions, sub- grantee responsibilities and other scope relating to the funding can be obtained at the DYS- Community Services Office in Chalan Piao, next to Bank of Guam (Joeten Building). You may also log into the DYS website at www.dys.gov.mp for the grant application form. A copy of the FY 2018 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan can be viewed at www.dcca.gov.mp or www.gov.mp.

For additional questions or inquiries, please contact the following:

Vivian T. Sablan
DYS Administrator
(670) 664-2550
vsablan@dys.gov.mp

Rita M. Castro
DYS Grant Writer
(670) 664-2557
rcastro@dys.gov.mp

Jennifer O. Tanaka
Federal Program Coordinator IV
(670) 664- 2554
jtanaka@dys.gov.mp

Nina S. Nekaifes
Federal Program Coordinator III
(670) 664-2554
nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp

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**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
**Office of the Executive Director**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**CUC-RFP-18-001**

**FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 & 2018**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 & 2018. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

- *OMB Circular A-133*
- *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
- *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*
- *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)*

The date of contract award will be no later than November 17, 2017. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2018 (FY17) & 2019 (FY18). Auditors are responsible to review all the 2017 & 2018 financial statements to include the physical CUC assets.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-18-001, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2017 & 2018**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **October 23, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 10, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Antonio Castro, CUC Chief Financial Officer, via email address antonio.castro@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Program Officer**
**Northern Marianas Humanities Council**

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) is inviting dynamic, motivated, and self-driven individuals with strong interest in the humanities to submit an employment application for the position of Program Officer.

The Program Officer is responsible for developing and implementing a variety of humanities programs and events and coordinating the Council's Community Grants program under the supervision of the Council's executive director. A detailed description of the Program Officer's duties may be obtained from the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai or from the Council's website at www.nmihumanities.org.

Applicants for this position must possess: (1). strong analytic, writing and communication skills; (2). knowledge of grants writing and grants administration; (3). the ability to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds; (4). a working knowledge of NMI history and of current political, social and economic issues confronting the local community; (5). basic computer skills including knowledge of MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint; and (6). the ability to articulate the Council's mission to a wide range of audiences.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in a humanities discipline from an accredited post-secondary institution. The salary range is from $35,000 to $40,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits are set forth in the Council's Personnel Policy Manual.

Interested individuals are invited to send an application package including: (1). letter of interest; (2). detailed résumé; (3). a writing sample (500-800 words on a humanities topic of your choice); and (4). the names and addresses of three references to Scott Russell, Executive Director, Northern Marianas Humanities Council, Box 506437, Saipan, MP 96950. Complete application packages must be received by Council staff on or before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 6, 2017. For more information about this employment opportunity please contact Council staff at 235-4785.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is an equal opportunity employer.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**Judiciary Administrative Office**
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

**COMMUNITY SUPERVISON PROVIDER**
Announcement # JVA17-016

**DUTIES:** The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Drug Court Manager in the Drug Court Division on Saipan which actively monitors drug court participants outside of the drug court setting including conducting home and job visits. All clients contact is documented and visits logged to help encourage positive participant behavior. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Ensures random drug testing and community supervision practices are in accordance with Drug Court policies and procedures;
- Performs all assigned duties relating to cases scheduled for drug court hearings;
- Coordinates criminal background checks for drug court participants;
- Gathers and evaluates data pertinent to individual cases from resource areas like the participants' home, school, church, social agencies, neighborhood contacts, etc.
- Documents facts with respect to the drug court participants' activities, behavior, and quality of adjustment while on supervision;
- Reports investigative findings conducted by assigned Drug Court law enforcement officer (s) to drug court and prepares recommendations for the proper case disposition;
- Appears in drug court hearings with the ability to provide testimony on drug court cases;
- Provides periodic interviews of participants to determine effectiveness of Drug Court mandates, supervision, counseling, etc.
- Maintains ongoing relationship with participants throughout the duration of the program;
- Follows Court policy for monitoring payments ordered by the Drug Court. The payments to be monitored include, but are not limited to, drug court fees, restitution, fine, child supports, etc.;
- Plans office activities, conferences and field visits in connection with investigation and supervision functions;
- Maintains accurate, neat, legible and up to date case records in the prescribed form;
- Attends public relations activities such as community group meetings, conference, panel discussions, and other related forums;
- Responsible for and conducts gender-specific, observed drug testing in accordance with CNMI Drug Court protocols;
- Continually assess and review supervision and drug testing protocols and terms and conditions of supervision regularly to ensure they are still working for the target populations; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:** Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in the criminal or behavioral science field. Also, have been the beneficiary of training in law enforcement and be able to write reports.

**COMPENSATION AND TENURE:** This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be $25,000 - $28,000 per annum.

**INTERESTED PERSONS** may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

# Asia

## AS ROHINGYA FLEE

# Suu Kyi skips UN meeting

**COX'S BAZAR, Bangladesh** (AP)—Facing global condemnation for weeks of violence that has driven minority Rohingya to flee—a crisis U.N. officials have described as "ethnic cleansing"—Myanmar's leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, pulled out of this month's U.N. General Assembly meetings.

The president's office said Wednesday that Suu Kyi would miss the assembly's ministerial session, which opens Sept. 19 and runs through Sept. 25, to address domestic security issues.

The U.N. Security Council condemned the violence that has driven some 380,000 ethnic Rohingya Muslims to flee to safety in neighboring Bangladesh. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told reporters that ethnic cleansing was taking place against Rohingya in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

The term "ethnic cleansing" is defined as an effort to rid an area of an unwanted ethnic group—by displacement, deportation or even killing.

Security Council members called for "immediate steps to end the violence," de-escalate the situation and ensure civilian protections in what many Rohingya see as their homeland.

The statement was the first made by the U.N.'s most powerful body in nine years addressing the precarious situation Rohingya face in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, Britain's U.N. Ambassador Matthew Rycroft said, calling it "an important first step."

Suu Kyi

Suu Kyi's appearance at last year's General Assembly was a landmark: her party had just won elections in 2015, replacing a military-dominated government and ushering in an era of democratic reform.

But even then, she faced criticism over Myanmar's treatment of Rohingya Muslims, whose name she did not utter. Many in Myanmar instead use the term "Bengalis" and insist they are people who migrated illegally from Bangladesh.

Rohingya have faced decades of persecution in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, and are denied citizenship despite centuries-old roots in the Rakhine region.

Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate who lived for years under house arrest when Myanmar was ruled by a military junta, has faced a torrent of criticism since the crisis erupted.

Myanmar has blamed the violence on Rohingya insurgents who attacked police outposts in Rakhine state on Aug. 25, inciting the military to respond with what it called "clearance operations" to root out the rebels.

Many Rohingya villagers who have flooded into Bangladesh say Myanmar soldiers shot indiscriminately, burned their homes and warned them to leave or die. Others have said they were attacked by Buddhist mobs.

Suu Kyi is not Myanmar's president—her official titles are state counselor and foreign minister—but she effectively serves as leader of the Southeast Asian nation though she does not control the military.

Presidential office spokesman Zaw Htay said that, with President Htin Kyaw hospitalized, second Vice President Henry Van Tio would attend this week's U.N. meeting.

"The first reason (Suu Kyi cannot attend) is because of the Rakhine terrorist attacks," Zaw Htay said. "The state counselor is focusing to calm the situation in Rakhine state. There are circumstances. The second reason is, there are people inciting riots in some areas. We are trying to take care of the security issue in many other places. The third is that we are hearing that there will be terrorist attacks and we are trying to address this issue."

# Duterte refuses call to open his bank accounts to scrutiny

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP—The Philippine president refused a demand by his most vocal critic to publicly release details of his bank accounts to disprove allegations that he had large sums of undeclared money.

President Rodrigo Duterte said in a news conference Wednesday that if opposition Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV wanted "to get evidence, do not get it from my mouth. You must be stupid ... Why would I give you the pleasure?"

Trillanes first alleged Duterte had unexplained wealth during the presidential campaign last year. In February, he publicly raised the issue again because he said Duterte had not yet revealed details of the more than 2 billion pesos ($39 million) he allegedly kept in bank accounts as a former city mayor.

Duterte inadvertently brought the issue back to public focus recently when he alleged Trillanes has several undeclared joint bank accounts with unidentified Chinese men in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Australia and the United States. Trillanes denied it and signed about a dozen waivers for authorities to look into the alleged bank accounts and demanded that Duterte do the same.

Duterte went on a personal attack against Trillanes, one of his harshest critics and a former navy officer once detained for a failed coup plot. He mocked Trillanes for losing the vice presidential race last year and alleged that the senator keeps huge funds in his bank accounts in amounts just below the level that could spark a Central Bank inquiry.

Duterte said a move by another senator to file an ethical complaint against Trillanes could lead to his ouster from the chamber "because of his behavior."

Trillanes is among key officials critical of some of Duterte's policies who are facing ouster attempts by the president's political allies who overwhelmingly dominate the Philippine Congress.

On Wednesday, the majority of the members of the Justice Committee of the House of Representatives voted to declare an impeachment complaint against Supreme Court Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno sufficient to investigate her.

On Tuesday, lawmakers voted to slash the annual budget of the Commission on Human Rights to 1,000 pesos ($20) for next year, although the decision can still be changed.

Critics were alarmed by the move, which they said could effectively abolish the agency, which was created under the constitution to investigate human rights violations. The agency was seeking an annual budget of 649 million pesos ($12.7 million).

Commission Chairman Chito Gascon has been a vocal critic of Duterte's bloody crackdown on illegal drugs that has left thousands of people dead.

U.N. rights expert Agnès Callamard said the move to massively cut the rights agency's budget was "reprehensible and unconscionable." Filipino Rep. Edcel Lagman said the congressional move that could virtually abolish a constitutional commission was "unconstitutional."

# World

# EU chief says bloc 'bouncing back' after crisis-hit decade

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—The European Union is in a healthier economic state than it's been for more than a decade and is ready to move on from Brexit, the bloc's top official said Wednesday.

Addressing lawmakers at the European Parliament, Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said the EU is "bouncing back" after a tough decade that's seen much of the 28-country mired in an economic crisis and Britain vote to leave.

AP

Pro-remain supporters of Britain staying in the EU, pose for photographers wearing EU flag masks whilst taking part in an anti-Brexit protest outside the Houses of Parliament in London, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017.

"The wind is back in Europe's sail," he said in an upbeat hour-long annual "State of the European Union" address in Strasbourg, France.

Juncker, whose Commission proposes EU legislation and polices the bloc's laws, said the EU is into its fifth year of economic recovery, with unemployment at a nine-year low.

"Let us make the most of the momentum, catch the wind in our sails," he said. "Europe can deliver for its citizens where and when it matters."

Since the global financial crisis first bared its teeth a decade ago, the EU project has been dealt a series of blows, most notably with Britain's decision last year to leave. It's also had to contend with a series of crises afflicting the countries—currently 19—that use the euro as their currency. However, the eurozone crisis appears to have abated somewhat and Greece is set to end its bailout era next summer.

With Britain due to leave the EU in March 2019, Juncker vowed that the bloc would take on no new members in the short-term, and he dealt a blow to Turkey's hopes of joining Europe's rich club anytime soon.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Jordan king links Syria border opening to better security

**AMMAN, Jordan** (AP)—Jordan's King Abdullah II says he is "deeply concerned" with the situation in southern Syria and that his country's border with Syria would only reopen "when the right security conditions materialize on the ground." The monarch told the state news agency Petra in an interview published Thursday that the military campaign against the Islamic State group in Syria "could push it south toward Jordan" and that Jordan's top priority is to protect its border. The king also says that a cease-fire for southwest Syria, brokered in July by Jordan, Russia and the U.S., could be replicated elsewhere in Syria. Russia proposes creating "de-escalation zones" in several areas of Syria. Russia's foreign minister met with Abdullah in Jordan this week to discuss the requirements for such a zone in southern Syria.

### Man accused in plot to bomb Somali apartments blames others

**WICHITA, Kan.** (AP)—A man accused of conspiring to bomb a Kansas apartment complex housing Somali refugees argued Wednesday that he was unaware his co-defendants intended to carry out the attack. Gavin Wright made the argument in a redacted, 93-page court motion filed by his attorney that offers the first details at his defense strategy. Wright and two other men are charged with conspiring to detonate truck bombs at an apartment complex in Garden City, a meatpacking town about 200 miles (322 kilometers) west of Wichita. Prosecutors said Wright and co-defendants Patrick Stein and Curtis Allen planned to carry out the attack a day after the November 2016 election. The three men, who were indicted in October, have pleaded not guilty. The motion portrays Wright as a lonely man desperate to find friends after moving to Liberal, a town in rural western Kansas. It contends Wright believed the talk about surveillance of the Somali Muslim refugee community was only hyperbole.

# Former Brazilian president Silva complains of witch hunt

**SAO PAULO** (AP)—Former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva told a Brazilian court Wednesday that the corruption charges against him stem from a witch hunt and questioned the impartiality of the judge.

Silva's deposition in the southeastern city of Curitiba was the second time he faced off with Judge Sergio Moro, who oversees the country's sprawling investigation into bribes to politicians in return for favors to companies.

In May, Brazil's former leader also struck a defiant note when he testified in another case and Moro eventually found him guilty, sentencing him to 9½ years in prison. Silva is appealing that conviction.

"I am going to get home tomorrow and eat lunch with eight grandchildren," Silva said. "Can I look my children in the eye and tell them that I testified in front of an impartial judge?"

Moro responded that he could, but Silva retorted: "That wasn't what happened in the other case." Moro, who repeatedly asked Silva not to make political comments, then cut off the recording.

In the case at hand Wednesday, the former president is accused of corruption for allegedly accepting an arrangement in which construction giant Odebrecht would buy a piece of land that was supposed to be the site of new headquarters for Silva's Instituto Lula.

Several other charges are pending for Silva, who has denied any wrongdoing and says the accusations are politically motivated.

"This is a witch hunt," he told the court.

Last week, Silva's former finance minister, Antonio Palocci, who has been in jail for a year, corroborated the accusation in this case. In court Wednesday, Silva said he "pitied" Palocci and said he was lying to save his own skin.

Supporters of Silva, many wearing the trademark red of his Workers' Party, gave him a rock star's welcome as he made his way through the crowd to enter the court.


COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD

**Commonwealth Zoning Special Board Meeting Agenda**
**Thursday, September 21, 2017**
**5:30PM, CUC Board Conference Room**
**3rd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Building**
**Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp**

**A. Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

**B. Public Hearings:**
1. Enforcement Hearing on Notice of Violation (NOV) # 2017-1050, issued on 5/31/2017, to Castle Project (CNMI) LLC, imposing a fine in the amount of $25,000.00. The Zoning Administrator issued the NOV to Castle Project (CNMI) LLC for violating the terms and conditions of its permit #2016-1360 (issued 9/19/2016) and approved site plan, as required in the permit and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013. Castle Project (CNMI) LLC appeals the NOV and the imposition of penalties by the Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section 1406 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.
2. Summary Suspension of Major Site Plan Permit # 2017-0779, issued on 6/2/2017 to Zone D Development Project (Saipan Housing). The Zoning Administrator imposed a summary suspension of Zone D Development Project's (Saipan Housing) permit for the Multifamily Apartment development in Chalan Piao, pursuant to Section 1312 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, for failing to show the correct dimensions of access way(s) into the property from a public road. Zone D Development Project (Saipan Housing) appeals the Zoning Administrator's summary suspension of its Major Site Plan Permit #2017-0779 pursuant to Section 1406 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

**C. Communication**

**D. Old Business**

**E. New Business**

**F. Executive (Closed) Session:**

**G. Miscellaneous**
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

**H. Adjourn**

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman*



COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
**for**
**Enforcement – Notice of Violation #2017-1050**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on the appeal of Castle Project (CNMI) LLC from Notice of Violation (NOV) #2017-1050, issued on 5/31/2017, imposing a fine in the amount of $25,000.00. The Zoning Administrator issued the NOV to Castle Project (CNMI) LLC for violating the terms and conditions of its permit #2016-1360 (issued 9/19/2016) and approved site plan, as required in the permit and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013. Castle Project (CNMI) LLC appeals the NOV and the imposition of penalties by the Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section 1406 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013. Castle Project (CNMI) LLC is located in Tanapag on lots # 030 B 13, 030 B 15, & 030 B 18.

**Date:** **September 21, 2017**
**Time:** **5:30 pm**
**Place:** **CUC Board Conference Room**
**3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building**

Comments may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, September 20, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail toTherese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.
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*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*



COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
**for**
**Summary Suspension of Major Site Plan Permit # 2017-0779**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on the appeal of Zone D Development Project's (Saipan Housing) Summary Suspension of its Major Site Plan Permit #2017-0779, issued on 6/2/2017. The Zoning Administrator imposed a summary suspension of Zone D Development Project's (Saipan Housing) permit for the Multifamily Apartment development in Chalan Piao, pursuant to Section 1312 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013, for failing to show the correct dimensions of access way(s) into the property from a public road. Zone D Development Project (Saipan Housing) appeals the Zoning Administrator's summary suspension of its Major Site Plan Permit # 2017-0779 pursuant to Section 1406 of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.
Zone D Development Project's (Saipan Housing) is located in Chalan Piao on lots # 458-NEW-1, 458-NEW-2, & 458-NEW-3.

**Date:** **September 21, 2017**
**Time:** **5:30 pm**
**Place:** **CUC Board Conference Room**
**3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building**

Comments may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, September 20, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail toTherese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

# Off The Wall

## Goodbye Cassini: Saturn spacecraft gets funny opera send-off

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.** (AP)—NASA's Cassini spacecraft is getting a grand but hilarious opera send-off before it plunges through Saturn's atmosphere and vaporizes Friday.

An actor from TV's old "Star Trek: Voyager" series, Robert Picardo, said he dashed off the lyrics in about a minute, several weeks ago. He collaborated with the creative director of The Planetary Society, and, presto, "Le Cassini Opera" was born.

Picardo set the words to the instantly recognizable aria "La Donna e mobile" from Verdi's "Rigoletto."

While Cassini's 20-year mission has been "a serious success," Picardo said the opera is definitely a comedy. Here's how it opens: "Goodbye, Cassini. Your mission's fini. Bravo, Cassini! Have some linguini." And on it goes, paying humorous tribute.

"No tragedy here. All good things—NASA missions, 'Star Trek' series, turkey and Swiss sandwiches with avocado—come to an end," Picardo told The Associated Press.

Cassini's program manager, Earl Maize, loves the performance.

"It's very heartwarming to us," Maize told reporters Wednesday at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

"Part of what we try to do is to extend everybody out to Saturn. It's not science for the ivory tower. It's for humanity, and so everybody to get on the ride, come with us, is just phenomenal."

THE PLANETARY SOCIETY VIA AP

This image shows a frame from a video posted on YouTube by The Planetary Society on Sept. 12, 2017, with actor Robert Picardo singing an operatic ode to the Cassini spacecraft. The actor from TV's old "Star Trek: Voyager" series says he dashed off the lyrics in about a minute, several weeks ago.

That was Picardo's goal, too. A longtime fan of both space and opera, he merged those interests in "Star Trek: Voyager" as the holographic doctor who bursts into song. It seemed fitting that he celebrate Cassini in song, too. He actually got to see Cassini's hitchhiking moon lander, the European Huygens, before it left Earth in 1997.

Picardo said Wednesday from Beverly Hills, California, that he sang "Le Cassini Opera" through twice. Five minutes, and that was a wrap.

"It was definitely a seat-of-the-pants production," he said.

Picardo, who's on the board of the Planetary Society , an advocacy group for space exploration, said he's delighted that the opera has been so well received

The Cassini-Huygens duo arrived at Saturn in 2004. Cassini remained in orbit around the ringed planet, as Huygens parachuted onto Titan, its biggest moon, in early 2005.

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### Hunky cops photo prompts Facebook users to ask for arrests

**GAINESVILLE, Fla.** (AP)—A group selfie from some Florida police officers has caused a social media stir, prompting some Facebook users to inquire about their marital status and others to ask to be arrested. The photo of the three Gainesville officers was posted on their department's Facebook page as Hurricane Irma lashed the state Sunday. The caption said they were "getting ready to do some work." The post produced more than 100,000 comments praising the officers' good looks. One woman wrote that she would like to turn herself in for the thoughts running through her head. Another posted: "how long does it take to get from NW Arkansas to Gainesville Florida? Asking for a friend." The department issued an update asking people not to call 911 to "request this group respond to your 'incident.'"

### Police: Woman took taxi home after robbing bank

**OCEAN SPRINGS, Miss.** (AP)—A Mississippi woman accused of robbing a bank and fleeing in a taxi has been arrested. News outlets report 35-year-old Dominique R. Spears was arrested at her apartment after a Yellow Cab driver told police that he picked her up at a Wells Fargo Bank on Tuesday. Ocean Springs police Capt. William Jackson says the robbery was reported at 10:51 a.m. Responding officers received information that the suspect had left the scene in a taxicab. A traffic officer followed the taxi and witnessed the driver drop off Spears at the Reserve Apartments about 3 miles from the bank. Police arrested Spears on a robbery charge. It's unclear if she has a lawyer.

### Babies born on back-to-back days outside same Burger King

**DENVILLE, N.J.** (AP)—Two women have delivered healthy babies on back-to-back days in the parking lot of the same Burger King restaurant in New Jersey. Denville police say they were called to the restaurant Friday night for a woman going into labor. They say the parents were on the way to the hospital but got stuck in traffic and had to pull over. Officers and emergency responders then helped the woman deliver a healthy son. The same patrol officers went back to the restaurant the next night for a report of another woman going into labor. Authorities say the couple was heading to the hospital when the woman started going through severe contractions. Officers helped deliver another baby boy in the couple's vehicle.


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
**RFP17-CHCC/FACILITY-26**
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 09, 2017 TIME: 1:00PM
**"LAUNDRY & LINEN SERVICES, FACILITY, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA, CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO, CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
**RFP17-CHCC/FACILITY-28**
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 09, 2017 TIME: 10:00AM
**"SOLAR PV SYSTEMS PROJECT, FACILITY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING
THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 AT 9:00A.M CHST. AT THE MAIN FACILITY OFFICE. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA, CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO, CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
**RFP-17-CHCC/WIC-25**
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 19, 2017 TIME: 10:00AM
**"REPAINTING PROJECT, WOMEN, INFANTS, &CHILDREN (WIC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT
A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD AT 9:00A.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA, CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO, CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
**RFP17-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE- 27**
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 09, 2017 TIME: 1:00PM
**"CHARGEMASTER, BUSINESS OFFICE, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA, CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO, CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
**MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, September 19, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

**MEETING AGENDA**

1) **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Election of Officers
   4. Adoption of Agenda
   5. Adoption of Minutes
      a. Regular Board Meeting – August 17, 2017
2) **Public Comments**
3) **Committee Reports**
   1. Finance –
      a. Fund Status Report – August 2017
4) **New Business**
   1. RFP for Happy Children in Paradise Campaign
5) **Old Business**
   1. MOU for Rota Mt. Sabana 360 Lookout Project - No Cost Extension
   2. MOU for Tinian Observation Deck Project - No Cost Extension
   3. Marianas International Film Festival
   4. Tour Guide Certification Rules and Regulations
6) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
7) **Executive Session**
8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Gloria Cavanagh
Secretary, MVA Board of Directors

**NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE**
**Procurement & Property Management Office**
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**NMC IFB 17-012**
BUILDING REPAIR AND RENOVATION PROJECT

Northern Marianas College (NMC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids for Roof Renovation for building D2, at As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, August 28, 2017, between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

**A mandatory pre-bid conference and site inspection** for interested persons, firms and corporation will be held on Friday, September 08, 2017 at 10:00am at NMC Procurement & Property Management Office, Conference Room on the 2nd floor, Bldg L.

**Bid Packages are due no later than 11:00 a.m., September 15, 2017** at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:
/s/Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Management Office

# Science & Technology

## There's no need to spend $999 for a good phone these days

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Apple's new iPhone X is special. It has flashy upgrades, facial recognition and animated emoji, all in celebration of the iPhone's 10-year anniversary. And its price tag is appropriately special: $999 and up.

But not everyone will find those extra features necessary. A solid phone that takes good pictures and lets you communicate with loved ones doesn't have to cost that much. Here are some options.

### GO BACK A MODEL—OR TWO

Going with an older phone can mean significant savings, but it won't come with the latest camera and screen technology of the newest phones. IPhones will get the latest software updates, though. Many Android models will, too, although you may have to wait longer.

The iPhone 6S, released two years ago, now starts at $449. Last year's iPhone 7 costs $100 more. Samsung's Galaxy S7, launched in March 2016, costs $576.

### SOMETHING OLD

Buying a refurbished model can be even cheaper than buying a new-but-outdated model, though it's more risky, because it could come with problems.

It's a big plus if your used phone has been updated with a new battery; those start to give out after about 18 months, said Matt Zieminski, an account manager with iFixit, which sells tools for repairing gadgets. Older batteries tend to run down quickly. Zieminski also recommends taking into account which seller is going to offer the longest warranty.

AP

In this Aug. 13, 2015, file photo, a product expert demonstrates the Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge Plus during a presentation at Lincoln Center in New York.

Apple says refurbished phones include a new battery and outer shell, and have a one-year warranty. It sells a refurbished iPhone 6S for less than $400. Samsung's website sells used phones with a one-year warranty as well. A Galaxy S6 is $349.

Carriers sell used phones too, typically with a 90-day warranty. So do Best Buy and Amazon; warranties vary. You can also buy phones off people on Craigslist, or friends and family members, but those won't likely come with a return policy, so buyer beware.

### CHEAPER ANDROIDS

There are many Android cellphones, often from Asia, that cost substantially less than a new Galaxy or iPhone. Many won't have an excellent camera—but depending on your photography skills, you might not even notice. Some won't have the technology that lets you pay by phone at store registers.

One tech-blog favorite, the OnePlus 5, starts at $479, has an excellent camera and a long-lasting battery, but doesn't work with Sprint or Verizon. Motorola's Moto G is well-made, budget-friendly at $230 and works with the major carriers—but in a review of a past model , the camera wasn't as good as pricier phones. The Wirecutter reviews site has a write-up of the latest version of the Moto G and tips on the best cheap Android models.

TECH Q&A

## Reduce your email spam by having a suspicious attitude

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**Q Within two days of joining Weathercloud.net (a "weather social network" for consumers), I began getting a large number of emails containing advertising and pornography from an organization called "Beautiful Email." Where can I report these two organizations? I know there is a group that controls web addresses; would a complaint to them get results?**

A Junk emailers, or spammers, are an unpleasant fact of life that underscore the need to be extremely careful about sharing personal information, such as your email address, online.

The group you thought might be in charge, called ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers; see tinyurl.com/gtxqfw5), is a nonprofit organization that manages a World Wide Web address list. But ICANN has no control over how websites are used.

As a result, your best protection is your own vigilance and some anti-spam software (none of it 100 percent effective) that's available through your Gmail account (it's already working for you) or from security software companies (see tinyurl.com/ja8lxv2).

What can you do to avoid getting more spam? Don't give out your email address to any person or website that you don't know well enough to trust. Before giving your email to any company, read its privacy policy to see whether it will share your address with its marketing partners. Don't forward group emails, which send your address to people you may not know. Don't open emails with suspicious headings. Never click on a link in an email.

Let's apply this suspicious attitude to Weathercloud.net, which may or may not have been responsible for your recent flood of spam. What should you know about how they do business?

Weathercloud's privacy policy says it takes "reasonable measures" to protect your personal information, but "cannot guarantee" it will be secure. If you click links to other websites while on the Weathercloud page, Weathercloud says it's not responsible for what those sites do with personal information you give them. In addition, Weathercloud warns that some parts of its site allow users to post personal information that anyone can view. It pays to know these things.


# Connie Fleming Power

**August 25, 1954-September 15, 1997**

*"Our beloved Connie, while she lives, cherished, in our Hearts she is never far away"*

*Our lives and our community would have evolved in a more different course had "†Connie's" light guided through the years.*

***Acknowledgement excerpts:***

**NMC Tinian Campus, 1997.**
*"As the entire island mourns the loss of Connie Fleming Power, the Northern Marianas College Tinian Campus acknowledges the passing of a caring and involved community leader".*

*"We will never forget how much Connie did for the college, from the concrete foundation to finding funds for our start up library collection, furnishings and landscaping, through her involvement with the CNMI Library Council and the Women's Council. Whenever there was a project or activity that promoted or served the community, Connie would almost always be there".*

**Tinian Chamber of Commerce, Inc., 1997**
*"Connie, a native born Tinian Chamorro, now joins her ancestors as an everlasting part of our island. Let us remember her beauty, her vigor, and her vision for Tinian."*

*Founding member of the Tinian Chamber of Commerce, which she helped establish in 1991; member Board of Directors and Vice-president; 1994-1997.*

*"Connie was a visionary. Out of her individual energy, she developed the concept of Eco-tourism for Tinian". Owner of guided tours such as Tourific Tinian Tours and Souvenir Gift Shop that promotes environmentally responsible travel to natural and cultural features of past and present island life and authentic island souvenirs.*

*She attended World Trade and Travel Fairs to educate and promote our islands throughout Asia.*

**Founding member Tinian Women Association, Inc., (TWA) Chairman 1992-1994**
*"Connie was a vocal and active member of our community; contributed greatly to many community projects" with her TWA Cohorts: the Tinian Children's Park, a smoke free alcohol free venue for families; installed Stop Signs throughout the village streets, conducted community interest forums, including political forums, co-authored the CNMI Anti-Prostitution Law, the Patte Parehu Law.*

**NMI Council for the Humanities, 1994-1997**
*The most tangible and memorable...the Pictorial History of the Chamorros from Yap; a traveling museum presentation of the migration to Tinian, and commemoration events for the 50th Anniversary of the end of WWII, 1995.*

*Marking the 20th Anniversary of Connie's passing, daily mass is offered at the San Jose Church, Tinian, which follows the regular church schedule.*

***The family thank the community for their support and prayers through the years.***

# Life & Style

# Angelina Jolie on her Cambodian epic and the power of family

Angelina Jolie arrives for an interview with the familiar harried air of a parent who has just barely managed to withdraw from her children, all six of whom she's left having breakfast upstairs in their Toronto hotel suite.

"The reason I was a little late is they made me change," Jolie says, smiling. "They thought what I was wearing was too revealing."

It's just another example of the extreme balancing act of Jolie's life, one which combines global celebrity with humanitarian devotion, A-list stardom with sober filmmaking, glamour and family. "I actually went to a premiere once with pee on me," she says. "It was when the kids were little and I just got peed on at the last minute. There was nothing to do but wear it."

But Jolie's latest film, the powerfully immersive Cambodian genocide drama "First They Killed My Father," represents a kind of amalgamation of Jolie's multifarious life. Her initial interest in Cambodia came when she arrived—in a much earlier life—to make "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" in 2000. She became infatuated with the country and its people, began goodwill work for the U.N.'s refugee agency and adopted her first child, Maddox, from Cambodia.

"First They Killed My Father," which hits Netflix and select theaters Friday, is based on Loung Ung's 2000 memoir. The film hues close to Ung's perspective as a five-year-old girl living with her family in Phnom Penn when the Khmer Rouge march in, force the residents to flee and then imprison Ung's family in a labor camp, brutally indoctrinating them to a classless society. Some two million (nearly a quarter of the country) died during the Khmer Rouge's four year reign of terror.

The film isn't just a shattering view of war through a child's eyes, it's intended as a cathartic healing for Cambodia itself, and a personal journey into the past of Maddox's countrymen. The 16-year-old, credited as an executive producer, collaborated with her mother on the production, which was shot in Cambodia with local actors, both professional and not.

"I said to my son Maddox, who's known Luong his whole life, when you're ready, we should tell Luong's story. But we have to tell it together," Jolie says. "We had this script for a few years and he came up to me and said, 'I'm ready.'"

Jolie's heavily-watched appearance at the Toronto International Film Festival was her most public since she filed for divorce from Brad Pitt after 12 years together—two of them married. Jolie acknowledged it's been a difficult period of transition and that her filmmaking has been put on pause. She has an acting gig lined up ("Maleficent 2") but the yearslong work of directing has for now been tabled.

"I've needed to take over a year off just to be with my kids," Jolie says. "All I've done is some of my humanitarian work and my teaching. I've done nothing else for over a year. Now that they're all older, the decisions really have to be made together because they home school and they'll be with me and they have a lot of opinions about what to do."

AP

In this Sept. 11, 2017 photo, Angelina Jolie, left, director/co-writer of the film "First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers," and co-writer/human rights activist Loung Ung pose for a portrait during the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

Now that her children are getting older, Jolie hopes that the other children will work with her, too. But, she assures, Maddox had to work hard, and wouldn't have earned a credit if he didn't.

"I asked Maddox and Pax if they'd work with me again. I think all the kids eventually want to do something. My little boy who's nine said he wants to train me because he thinks I'm out of shape. So maybe I'll just be working with my children," says Jolie, joking but also delighted about the idea: a close-knit, globe-trotting clan of moviemaking adventurers, schooled in classrooms in Cambodian rice fields and African plains. "Now," she says, "where next?"

Luong Ung, 47, came to Vermont from a refugee camp in Thailand as a 10-year-old. She now is married and lives in Cleveland, but she and Jolie have long been friends. She and Jolie co-wrote the script. Jolie also enlisted Rithy Panh, the Oscar-nominated director of the Cambodian genocide documentary "The Missing Picture," as co-producer.

"There's probably a Hollywood version of this, but this wasn't about that," says Ung. "This was about honor and celebration and remembrance."

If Pahn had said no, or if she couldn't film the movie in Cambodia, Jolie says she wouldn't have made "First They Killed My Father." For a county still struggling with its history of genocide, the process of remembering and re-enacting was more important than the finished work. "It's not really the film itself," says Jolie. "Preparing to make it was also preparing to understand and communicate with a country and help a country to speak."

Pahn likes to joke that Jolie, 42, is "a Cambodian woman reincarnated." It's clear that the two are bonded by a strong belief in family. Pahn's experience may represent Cambodia's, but "First They Killed My Father" is also an indelibly heart-wrenching story about a family torn apart by war, yet unbroken.

"Even when the soldiers told us my parents were enemies of the state, I knew they loved me and I loved them. There was never a question about that," says Pahn. "After I lost them, what they said to me at a young age, their spirits continue to say to me. I continue to be raised by my parents."

Making the film had its own emotions. Jolie had a therapist on set for those whose memories were too painfully resurrected. One man dropped to his knees when he saw the Khmer Rouge actors marching over a bridge. Despite the care taken in the process, Jolie found herself defending the film's casting process after she was quoted in Vanity Fair describing an improvisation game in which money would be given and then taken from young actors. Jolie says the suggestion that it was a real scenario was "false and upsetting."

Jolie instead hopes the film brings audiences closer to the Cambodian people, as well as other countries now experiencing violent tumult. "This could be Syria," she says. "This could be Myanmar." But it also concludes Jolie's most massive undertaking—a movie made for an entire country. ***(AP)***

# Del Toro on his festival sensation and love of monsters

**TORONTO** (AP)—If the Toronto International Film Festival has proven one thing, it's that Guillermo del Toro can work a room.

At the premiere of his festival sensation and surefire Oscar contender "The Shape of Water," the good-humored Mexican director had the audience of the Elgin Theatre in his thrall, both by the magic of his monster romance and by his self-deprecating sincerity discussing the film's political relevance (proclamations to "make America great again," he said, were a "false memory" of the segregated early '60s in which his film is set) as well as his own fondness for his adopted home of Toronto.

"I identify with Canada," said Del Toro, whose kind, mischievous eyes are framed by the small circles of his glasses and his roly-poly physique. "I identify with Canadian bacon."

"The Shape of Water," which Fox Searchlight will release Dec. 8, has been an undeniable breakout on the festival circuit, where it took the top prize at the Venice Film Festival over the weekend.

The film, which stars Sally Hawkins as a mute woman who falls for a captured sea monster, is a loving tribute to outsiders of all kinds—a message that has been received by festival audiences as a vitally relevant one.

Shortly after flying back to Toronto, award in tow, Del Toro sat down to discuss his abiding affections for monsters, movies and water.

**AP: Why do you think your film is resonating as it is?**

**Del Toro:** For the last few years—and I don't think it started two years ago—we've seen the world going in the wrong swing of the pendulum. It causes such despair and the heart of the movie is so utterly sincere that sometimes the most shocking thing in this world is sincerity. There is something that kind of touches you. It's like when you meet someone who just exists, who's very real and just present. The movie is very present, and it wears its heart on its sleeve in the sense that it's unapologetically not a regular movie.

**AP: How did you fall in love with monsters?**

**Del Toro:** It happened when I was a young kid. Every Sunday in my hometown, channel six would show a marathon of monster movies. So I saw "It Conquered the World," "The Bride of Frankenstein," "Creature of the Black Lagoon," "The Incredible Shrinking Man," "The Monolith Monsters." I would watch "The Raven," "The Black Cat," "Body Snatchers." It was every Sunday. I would go to church and I would see these monsters. They became almost an iconography. Frankenstein to me is a messiah, crucified for sins. They became almost saintly pagan figures.

**AP: Why did you identify with them?**

**Del Toro:** I saw I felt out of place since I was very young. I'm talking 2, 3, 4 years old. I saw the creatures and I thought: I'm like that. I'm that. One Christmas, I got a scar on my forehead and I didn't want it to completely heal, to have my Frankenstein scar. When the performer is great—like in the cases of Boris Karloff who brought so much vulnerability to that part—you get this paradox that the thing you should be scared off, you find compassion and love for. And that's essentially what I do.

**AP: You here use water very evocatively, and you've compared water, which can flow anywhere, to love.**

**Del Toro:** It is an element that has an enchantment on me. My physique may not prove it but I'm a great swimmer and a great diver. I've been diving since I was a kid. I almost went into a competition. My family had a pool and I spent sometimes entire afternoons, entire weeks almost all the time underwater. Other kids dream that they can fly. My recurring dream is that I can breathe underwater.

**Del Toro:**

**AP: Do you think the movies could use more magic in them?**

**Del Toro:** Hopefully the first magic that it can invoke is cinema. It's a movie in love with love and in love with cinema. It's shot like a musical, the way the camera moves in a very classical movie. It's a love story between an amphibian man and a woman, shot by Douglas Sirk with musical numbers and a Cold War thriller.

**AP: You've said cinema is sustaining for you. Like which films?**

**Del Toro:** Capra does that for me. I share a spirit with him. When people talk about Capra, a lot of them talk about the corny, syrupy, happy parts. But most people forget that the reason those work is that Capra, like Disney and Dickins, goes really dark. George Bailey running through the abandoned town where no one remembers him is as close to Kafka and horror as you can get. I share that attraction to combining the sweet and the dark, the violent and the tender. He uplifts my spirits every time. I cannot not cry on "Meet John Doe." I cannot not cry on "Mr. Smith." I cannot not cry on "It's a Wonderful Life." It breaks me. I start weeping. I cry at my movie, every time. I know how it ends. I've seen it 185 times and every time the final image comes, I'm overwhelmed.

# Larry King says he was operated on for lung cancer

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Veteran broadcaster Larry King says he battled lung cancer this summer but appears to have the disease at bay.

The former CNN host, who is 83, told Us Weekly that a spot on his lung was noticed this summer during a routine checkup. He said he had surgery in July. The tumor was malignant but King said it was found at such an early stage that his doctor told him he was lucky.

King has had health issues in the past, including a heart attack and prostate cancer. He was a smoker but gave it up after his heart attack in the 1980s.

King keeps working. He told the magazine that his secret wish is to do six months on Broadway, telling stories and taking audience questions.

# 'Sopranos' mobster, veteran actor Frank Vincent dies at 80

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Frank Vincent, a veteran character actor who often played tough guys, including mob boss Phil Leotardo on "The Sopranos," has died. He was 80.

Vincent died peacefully on Wednesday, a statement from his family said. No cause of death was given.

Besides Leotardo, the ruthless New York mob boss who frequently clashed with Tony Soprano on the popular HBO drama and who was memorably whacked at a service station, Vincent portrayed gangsters for director Martin Scorsese. He appeared in "Raging Bull," ''Goodfellas"—where he played Billy Batts, a made man in the Gambino crime family—and "Casino," playing Frank Marino, based on real-life gangster Frank Cullotta.

Vincent had small roles in two Spike Lee films, "Do the Right Thing" and "Jungle Fever," and also was in "The Pope of Greenwich Village," ''Last Exit to Brooklyn," ''Night Falls on Manhattan" and "Shark Tale," among his more than 50 movies.

Raised in Jersey City, New Jersey, he acted in school plays and learned piano, trumpet and drums. As an adult, he became a session drummer for such singers as Paul Anka, Del Shannon, Trini Lopez and The Belmonts.

In 1975, he made his feature film acting debut in Ralph DeVito's "Death Collector," where he was spotted by Scorsese.

In 2006, Vincent published "A Guy's Guide to Being a Man's Man."

# $20M-$30M Picasso portrait of muse up for sale

**LONDON** (AP) — A late Picasso portrait of his paramour Jacqueline Roque is going up for auction for the first time, with an estimated price of up to $30 million, Christie's auction house said Wednesday.

Christie's will offer "Femme accroupie (Jacqueline)" — Crouching Woman (Jacqueline) — at a Nov. 13 sale in New York.

Painted in October 1954, the portrait hung for years in Picasso's private collection and has rarely been seen in public.

Christie's global president, Jussi Pylkkanen, says it is "a museum-quality painting" of "one of Picasso's most elegant muses." Roque was married to the artist from 1961 until his death in 1973.

The painting is one three portraits Picasso painted of Roque in his studio in the south of France on Oct 8, 1954, all showing her crouched with arms around her knees. The boldly colored painting shows the influence of the colorful cutouts of Henri Matisse, who died later that year.

AP

Christie's auction house staff pose for photographs with the 1954 Pablo Picasso painting "Femme accroupie (Jacqueline)", a portrait of Jaqueline Roque, Picasso's final great muse and eventually his second wife, at their premises in London, Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017.

It is being sold from a private collection, and Christie's estimates it will fetch $20 million to $30 million.

The painting will be on public display at Christie's London showroom from Saturday until Tuesday.

Picasso was one of the most acclaimed, and prolific, artists of the 20th century. His 1955 work "Les femmes d'Alger" sold in 2015 for $179 million —a record for a painting at auction.

# White House: ESPN could justify firing Hill for Trump tweets

**BRISTOL, Conn.** (AP)—White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Wednesday that sports anchor Jemele Hill could justifiably be fired from ESPN for tweets calling President Donald Trump a "white supremacist" and "a bigot."

"I think that's one of the more outrageous comments that anyone could make, and certainly something that I think is a fire-able offense by ESPN," Sanders said.

Sanders said she was not sure whether the president was aware of Hill's comments.

On Monday night, in a series of exchanges with other Twitter users, Hill said, "Donald Trump is a white supremacist who has largely surrounded himself w/ other white supremacists."

Hill, an African-American co-host of the 6 p.m. broadcast of "SportsCenter," also added that "Trump is the most ignorant, offensive president of my lifetime. His rise is a direct result of white supremacy. Period."

In another tweet, she said, "Donald Trump is a bigot," and went on to criticize his supporters, adding "The height of white privilege is being able to ignore his white supremacy, because it's of no threat to you. Well, it's a threat to me."

ESPN distanced itself from Hill's tweets Tuesday.

"The comments on Twitter from Jemele Hill regarding the president do not represent the position of ESPN," the network tweeted from its public relations department's account. "We have addressed this with Jemele and she recognizes her actions were inappropriate."

Disney-owned ESPN didn't elaborate on any possible punishment for Hill, and she was on "SportsCenter" as usual Tuesday and Wednesday.

Hill tweeted a statement Wednesday night, saying: "My comments on Twitter expressed my personal beliefs. My regret is that my comments and the public way I made them painted ESPN in an unfair light. My respect for the company and my colleagues remains unconditional."

While many Twitter users called for Hill to be fired, unemployed NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick expressed his support, tweeting "We are with you @jemelehill."

Kaepernick, who remains unsigned after opting out of his contract with the San Francisco 49ers, received plenty of criticism—and support—after kneeling during the national anthem before games last season to protest police brutality.

When asked why prominent African-Americans were criticizing Trump, Sanders said she could not speak for Hill and said the president has met with respected African-American leaders like U.S. Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, the only black Republican in the Senate.

"He's committed to working with them to bring the country together," Sanders said. "I think that's where we need to be focused—not on outrageous statements like that one."

# Hands-on approach to other women disturbs man's wife

DEAR ABBY: My husband cannot be around a female without putting his hands on her shoulder or back. He "has" to touch. I'm not jealous, but embarrassed when I see women cringe and the expression on their faces sometimes. I keep hoping one of them will confront him about it. It's getting worse the older he gets, especially with younger women.

Do not suggest talking to him. He is never wrong and becomes livid when confronted. He reads your column, so please, Abby, give me some advice.

TIRED OF BEING EMBARRASSED

**DEAR TIRED: I assume your husband does this only with unaccompanied young females, because if he did it with women who had an escort, their date owwr their husband would straighten him out. Because you can see the women are uncomfortable, talk privately with them and suggest they speak up and tell him not to do it again.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My divorced son remarried a short time ago. His new wife seems to have no boundaries and no filters. If anything comes up that displeases her, she becomes verbally aggressive and in your face. (She has been fired numerous times because of it.) I have been on the receiving end several times, publicly. My son looks the other way, and if pressed, he supports her.

How can I maintain a relationship with my son, whom I love, and not expose myself to this woman's abuse? (He no longer receives invitations to the family dinners his sister hosts, and my son's adult children actively avoid her.)

BATTERED MOTHER-IN-LAW

**DEAR BATTERED: You do not have to tolerate being verbally abused. Because your son's wife "has no filters," try to see him separately -- perhaps for lunch dates—if possible. If he is so much under her control that he refuses, you may have to accept that she has managed to isolate him from family.**

**Tell him you love him, and your heart and your home are always open to him. Then point out that you are not the only family member who feels this way, but for the sake of your mental health, you can no longer tolerate her abuse.**

**DEAR ABBY:** During a recent cross-country tour of Italy, I was asked my age by five different people in the group. My being polite—and evasive—didn't deter them. Please inform your readers that some people find it offensive to be asked that question.

AGELESS IN ARKANSAS

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

**DEAR AGELESS: I agree that not everyone wants to discuss their age. Perhaps the questioners didn't realize they were being rude. However, if you indicated that you didn't want to answer and your fellow travelers persisted, you would have had every right to end the conversation by saying, "I don't discuss my age. Period!"**

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

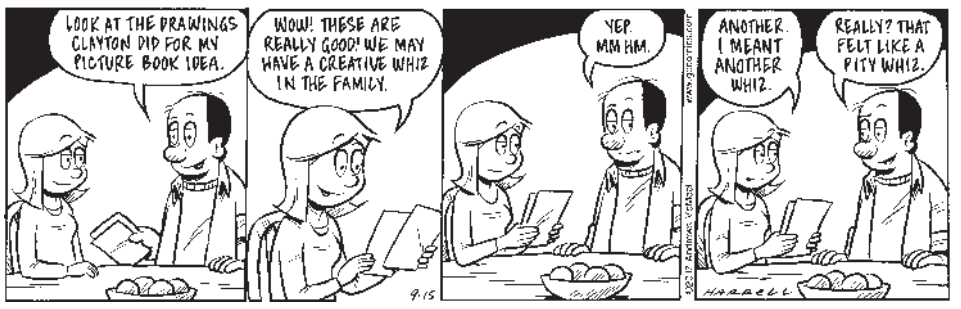
SO LONG, "MOM"! WE'RE OFF TO THE YUKON. IT'S BEEN NICE LIVING HERE.. BUT NOT REAL NICE! HA HA!
CALVIN! WAIT A MINUTE.
LEAVE IT TO A MOTHER TO DRAG OUT A GOODBYE. SHEESH.
YOU'RE GOING SOUTHEAST. NORTH IS THAT WAY.
OH YEAH. I KNEW THAT.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

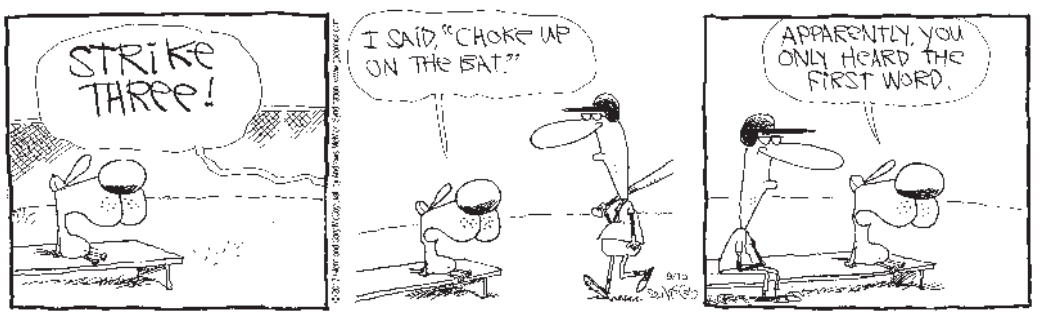
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LOOK AT THE DRAWINGS CLAYTON DID FOR MY PICTURE BOOK IDEA.
WOW! THESE ARE REALLY GOOD! WE MAY HAVE A CREATIVE WHIZ IN THE FAMILY.
YEP. MM HM.
ANOTHER. I MEANT ANOTHER WHIZ.
REALLY? THAT FELT LIKE A PITY WHIZ.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy




## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

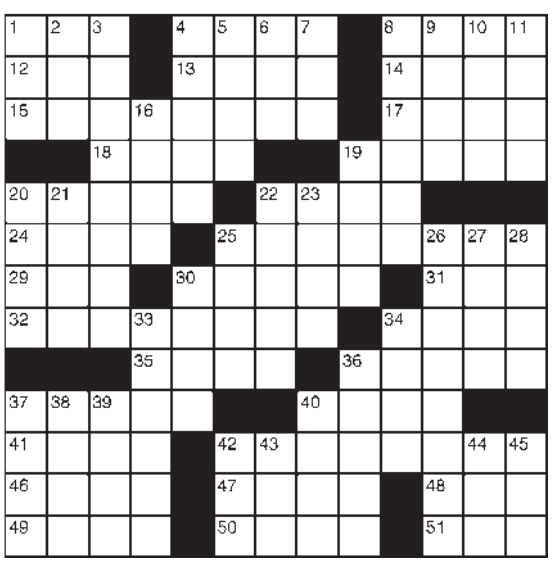
**ACROSS**
1 Cleaning cloth
4 Funny Fey
8 Port of Algeria
12 Rowing tool
13 Flightless birds
14 Evening, in an ad
15 Squirrel's kin
17 Hot tubs
18 Floor cleaners
19 Apple tablets
20 Macbeth's title
22 Actress Russo
24 "— Lang Syne"
25 Crunchy party snack
29 Leary's drug
30 Smidgens
31 Exist
32 Golf stroke
34 Hosp. scans
35 Cupid's specialty
36 Central part
37 Biden and Pence
40 Porgy's love
41 "May It Be" singer
42 Stock type
46 Like slasher films
47 Harangue
48 Altar vow
49 Cruising
50 Pantry pests
51 Furry foot

**DOWN**
1 Sinbad's bird
2 Contented sound
3 Monaco's ruling family
4 Arizona city
5 Radio host Don
6 Sister
7 Request
8 Without a contract
9 TV host Kelly
10 Slightly
11 Legendary loch
16 Frogs' hangout
19 Hostels
20 Body powder
21 "Be quiet!"
22 Copter blade
23 Part of Q.E.D.
25 Silver salmon
26 Privation
27 Rainbow
28 Nuisance
30 Doctrines
33 Tropical fruit
34 Uncategorized (Abbr.)
36 Encounters
37 Lyra's brightest star
38 Eve's grandson
39 Brontë heroine
40 Batter's ploy
42 Bikini half
43 PC linking system
44 Lupino of film
45 "Wham!"

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | L | O | W | | P | O | W | | C | H | A | W |
| L | A | M | E | | A | R | A | | R | J | S | E |
| I | I | N | A | | S | E | R | | E | M | I | I |
| S | ¯ | I | L | T | S | | T | R | A | P | | |
| | | | T | H | E | C | H | A | M | B | E | R |
| M | U | S | H | Y | | R | O | D | | A | R | I |
| I | ¯ | T | Y | | M | E | G | | A | C | I | D |
| T | A | R | | T | I | S | | Y | | K | E | S |
| T | H | E | P | A | R | T | N | E | R | | | |
| | | | A | L | M | A | | A | T | L | A | S | T |
| M | A | M | A | | C | O | D | | | D | E | A |
| O | X | E | N | | - | E | I | | N | I | N | O |
| S | ¯ | R | B | | F | R | A | | F | N | D | S |

**Yesterday's answer 9-15**



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Prince Harry, 33; Tom Hardy, 40; Tommy Lee Jones, 71; Oliver Stone, 71.

**Happy Birthday:** Spend more time at home or with the people you care about most. Changing your lifestyle to meet the demands put on you by family members or colleagues will help ease stress as well as encourage you to take better care of your health. Personal developments will result in self-improvement and better opportunities. Your numbers are 9, 16, 23, 32, 34, 46, 49.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Take a deep breath and stay quiet. Speaking up about something you don't fully understand can cause problems in your relationships. Observe and ask questions but don't retaliate. Time is on your side. Choose peace over discord. ✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Emotional situations that deal with home, family or financial matters should be thought through carefully. Don't jump to conclusions or give in to emotional manipulation that could end up costing you a bundle. Stick to basics and say "no" to temptation. ✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* An outing, mini-vacation or getting together with friends should be planned. Looking your best will boost your confidence and give you the courage to participate in physical activities. Romance is highlighted and will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Relationships will be strained if you jump to conclusions or if you insist on having things done your way. Think twice before you try to make a decision for someone else. You cannot buy love or force someone to do things your way. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Instability will surface if you apply pressure or make demands. Approach any deal you want to pursue with a fair plan that strives for equality and affordability. Personal growth and developing new skills will help you reach your goals. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Consider the changes you can make to your living arrangements without going into debt. Use your intelligence to come up with a plan or incentive that will encourage others to pitch in and help. Choose diplomacy over force. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Extravagance, emotional outbursts and making impulsive choices will cost you personally, emotionally and financially. Refusing to listen to sound advice or choosing to make rash decisions about your living arrangements will work against you. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be cautious about how much you spend. Don't take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Offer your time or suggestions and refuse to let anyone coerce you into something you don't want to do. Protect your personal information and documents. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Keep your life simple. If you overstep your boundaries, you will be challenged. Extravagance, excess and overreacting will hurt you professionally and financially. Concentrate on self-improvements, not trying to tempt others to think the way you do. ✪✪✪

**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You can have fun without being excessive. Trying to keep up with someone who is extravagant will cost you. Be honest about what you want to do and what you think is absurd. Walk away from unstable people or situations. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Refuse to let work-related matters get to you. Negotiate contracts on your own behalf. Don't overreact to financial, medical or legal matters. A clear head and a sound solution will serve you better than a temperamental outburst. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* The choices someone makes will puzzle you. Don't be tempted to take on too much. Moderation will be necessary if you want to avoid loss. Social events that include children or your loved ones will help ease your stress. ✪✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are loving, helpful, practical and innovative.

*To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 6 | | 4 | 3 | | | |
| | 4 | | 6 | | | 7 | | |
| 2 | | | | 3 | | | | 9 |
| 9 | | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | 3 | | 5 | | 8 | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | 1 |
| 1 | | | | 9 | | | | 2 |
| | 9 | | | | 3 | | 5 | |
| | | 7 | 1 | | | 6 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| 4 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| 9 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| 2 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 3 |
| 7 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 2 |

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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FINNAN HADDIE — **Solution: 11 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | N | O | D | N | I | F | C | I | L | R | A | G | P | H |
| D | E | L | I | O | B | L | O | N | D | O | N | A | O | O |
| D | E | K | I | T | S | A | O | T | N | I | S | R | A | L |
| E | D | T | O | B | A | K | E | I | D | P | S | N | C | L |
| P | R | N | L | M | C | Y | O | L | A | E | A | I | H | A |
| O | E | S | I | A | S | N | E | R | R | G | U | S | E | N |
| L | B | A | K | K | S | P | A | A | T | R | C | H | D | D |
| L | A | E | N | R | S | G | D | S | G | I | E | S | R | A |
| A | S | P | R | E | U | I | A | Ⓓ | Ⓘ | Ⓛ | Ⓛ | E | I | I |
| C | D | A | V | S | S | O | D | N | A | L | T | O | C | S |
| S | R | I | F | H | R | K | L | E | M | O | N | T | E | E |
| E | H | E | N | F | C | H | E | F | E | P | E | A | T | C |
| C | G | S | A | N | R | T | N | E | E | R | G | T | D | U |
| I | E | G | I | M | E | O | A | N | L | L | I | O | R | B |
| P | U | O | S | F | T | R | N | C | O | L | D | P | S | E |

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Aberdeen, Asparagus, Bake, Boiled, Broil, Cakes, Catch, Chef, Chives, Cold, Cream, Cube, Dill, Dinner, Eggs, Escalloped, Findon, Fish, Flaky, Flour, Garlic, Garnish, Green, Grill, Hollandaise, Horseradish, Leeks, Lemon, London, Onions, Peas, Peat, Poached, Potatoes, Rice, Roast, Saffron, Salted, Sauce, Scotland, Skin, Smoked, Soup, Spelding, Toast

**Yesterday's Answer: Evacuation**

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Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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Must have minimum 5 years' experience in non-life insurance company or equivalent college degree. Must be able to discharge underwriting functions including field inspection, rating, encoding of policies, communications and report preparation, administering reinsurance functions, providing materials for annual budget, servicing of agents, brokers and direct customers with the objective of targeting renewals, satisfactory loss ratios and meeting the budget. Must be computer literate in MS Word, Excel, Power Point and preferably with Oracle based insurance system.

• Underwriting Assistant (1)
Must have college degree or graduating with college degree in 2017. Experience in insurance is preferred but not mandatory. Must be computer literate in MS Word, Excel, Power Point. Must be willing to be trained and work under time pressure.

---

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, Friday, September 15, 2017.

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2017**

**Opening date: August 28, 2017** **Closing date: September 15, 2017**

Positions:(1) Tinian Ports Manager (Tinian) (1) Equipment Operator-I (Saipan)
(1)ARFF Maintenance-I (Saipan) (1) General Maintenance-II (Rota-Seaport)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport***. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than ***5:00 p.m Friday, September 15, 2017.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

## ACHUGAO SERVICES, LLC
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### (01) ASSISTANT ACCOUNTING MANAGER

**Job Purpose:**
Maximizes return on financial assets by establishing financial policies, procedures, controls, and reporting systems.

**Duties:**
- Guides financial decisions by establishing, monitoring, and enforcing policies and procedures.
- Protects assets by establishing, monitoring, and enforcing internal controls.
- Monitors and confirms financial condition by conducting audits; providing information to external auditors.
- Prepares budgets by establishing schedules; collecting, analyzing, and consolidating financial data; recommending plans.
- Achieves budget objectives by scheduling expenditures; analyzing variances; initiating corrective actions.
- Provides status of financial condition by collecting, interpreting, and reporting financial data.
- Prepares special reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing information and trends.
- Complies with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation; anticipating future legislation; enforcing adherence to requirements; filing financial reports; advising management on needed actions.
- Completes operational requirements by scheduling and assigning employees; following up on work results.
- Maintains financial staff by recruiting, selecting, orienting, and training employees.
- Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies.
- Protects operations by keeping financial information and plans confidential.
- Prepare income taxes for all entities.
- Prepares monthly financial statements.
- Reviews work of the accounting staff.
- Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.

**Skills/Qualifications:**
- Managing Processes, Financial Software, Developing Standards, Audit, Accounting, Corporate Finance, Tracking Budget Expenses, Financial Skills, Analyzing Information , Developing Budgets, Performance Management.
- Strong analytical and communication skills.
- Knowledge of financial reporting systems preferably Quickbooks.
- Knowledge of Excel.

**Employer Preference:** Must have own transportation to and from the workplace. US citizen or green card holder preferred. Looking to hire immediately.

*Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd., Garapan, Saipan or email to Tania Mesa, HR Manager at: tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm.*

## ACHUGAO SERVICES, LLC
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### (01) Bookkeeper

**Duties:**
- Update and maintain accounts payable and receivables.
- Prepare bank deposits, verify and balance receipts, handle payroll, prepare invoices and keep track of overdue accounts.
- Monitor loans and payments, balance and reconcile billing vouchers, and enter code transactions according to company accounting procedures.
- Maintain general ledger and subsidiary accounts by verifying, allocating, and posting transactions.
- Balance subsidiary accounts by reconciling entries.
- Balance general ledger by preparing a trial balance; reconciling entries.
- Maintain historical records by filing documents and scanning documents to server.
- Prepare financial reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing account information and trends.
- Comply with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying requirements; enforcing adherence to requirements; filing reports; advising management on needed actions.

**Skills/Qualifications:**
- Employer Preference: Knowledge in Excel, MC Word, Power Point programs. Must have a minimum of two (2) years work experience in accounting. Must have thorough knowledge of QuickBooks Accounting System. Must work with minimal or no supervision. Must have own transportation to and from the workplace. US citizen or green card holder preferred. Looking to hire immediately.

*Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd., Garapan, Saipan or email to Tania Mesa, HR Manager at: tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm.*

WHATZIT Solution: The Lady and the Tramp

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|---|---|---|
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**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in classified section

# Blackjack: Indians set AL record with 21st straight win

CLEVELAND (AP)—Making history almost every time they take the field, the Cleveland Indians won their 21st straight game on Wednesday, 5-3 over the Detroit Tigers, to set an American League record and join only two other teams in the past 101 years to win that many in a row.

Jay Bruce hit a three-run homer off Buck Farmer (4-3), and Mike Clevinger (10-5) won his consecutive straight start as the Indians matched the 1935 Chicago Cubs for the second-longest winning streak since 1900. The run has put Cleveland within five wins of catching the 1916 New York Giants, who won 26 straight without a loss but whose century-old mark includes a tie.

Roberto Perez added a homer in the seventh and four Cleveland relievers finished. Cody Allen got his 27th save, giving the Indians the league's longest streak since the AL was founded in 1901.

During the streak, which began with a 13-6 win over Boston ace Chris Sale on Aug. 23, the Indians have outscored their opponents 139-35 and trailed in only four of 189 innings. Cleveland starters are 19-0 with a 1.70 ERA, and the Indians have totaled more homers (40) than runs allowed.

Cleveland opens a four-game series Thursday night at home against Kansas City, which was outscored 20-0 during its three-day visit last month.

AP

Cleveland Indians' Francisco Lindor, left, and Austin Jackson celebrate a 5-3 victory over the Detroit Tigers in a baseball game, Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017, in Cleveland.

### Yankees 3, Rays 2

In New York, a disappointed Jaime Garcia didn't even look at manager Joe Girardi when the pitcher was removed one out shy of qualifying for his first win with the Yankees, and New York edged Tampa Bay to take two of three games in a series moved from Florida to Citi Field because of Hurricane Irma.

Making his first appearance since Aug. 30, Garcia allowed only Kevin Kiermaier's solo homer in 4 2/3 innings. Chad Green (5-0) struck out three of his four batters and Aroldis Chapman got four outs for his 18th save in 22 chances. Chapman fanned four and earned his first save of more than three outs since Game 5 of last year's World Series for the Chicago Cubs. The Yankees won their fourth straight series.

A pro-Yankees crowd of 13,159 raised the total for the series to 49,510. Tickets were $25 each day.

Tampa Bay was heading back home after the game and returns to Tropicana Field for a five-game homestand starting Friday against Boston.

### White Sox 5, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Jose Abreu hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the ninth inning, and Chicago won a series in Kansas City for the first time since 2015.

Tim Anderson singled, went to second on a wild pitch by Scott Alexander (4-4) and stole third before scoring on Abreu's fly ball. Avisail Garcia added an RBI single to make it 5-3.

Juan Minaya (3-2) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings for the win. Last-place Chicago took two of three at Kauffman Stadium, winning its first road series since June 16-18 and damaging the Royals' wild-card hopes.

### Cubs 17, Mets 5

In Chicago, Albert Almora Jr. spent most of the night watching from the dugout. Once he entered the game, he sure did make an impact.

Almora homered and drove in a career-high six runs after coming off the bench in the seventh inning, and the Chicago Cubs routed the New York Mets.

Javier Baez also went deep and had four hits for the Cubs, who matched a season high for runs after pouring on 12 over their final three at-bats. They have outscored the Mets 25-8 the past two games.

It's just what the NL Central leaders needed after managing only three runs in a weekend sweep by Milwaukee that tightened the division race. Chicago remained 2 1/2 games ahead of the Brewers and moved three up on St. Louis.

### Dodgers 4, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Yu Darvish and two relievers combined on a five-hitter, Cody Bellinger hit his 37th home run and the Los Angeles Dodgers won back-to-back games for the first time in nearly three weeks, beating the San Francisco Giants.

The win lowered the Dodgers' magic number to seven for clinching the NL West crown. Los Angeles secured at least a wild-card berth in the playoffs Tuesday night with a victory that ended its 11-game losing streak, the club's longest since moving to the West Coast in 1958.

Darvish, acquired from Texas at the July 31 trade deadline, was 2/3 with a 5.34 ERA in six previous starts with Los Angeles but was crisp in his first career outing against San Francisco.

### Brewers 8, Pirates 2

In Milwaukee, center fielder Brett Phillips made the highlight reel and blooper reel on the same night, not bad for a Milwaukee Brewers rookie who wasn't even supposed to be in the starting lineup Wednesday.

The last-minute replacement for injured Domingo Santana threw out a runner at the plate in a win over the Pittsburgh Pirates. Phillips added two hits and three RBI at the plate. And he had a memorable trip between first and second base on a broken-bat single in the third inning.

Eric Thames hit his team-high 30th homer and Chase Anderson pitched effectively on three days' rest for the Brewers, who remained 2 1/2 games behind the first-place Cubs in the NL Central.

### Twins 3, Padres 1

In Minneapolis, Eddie Rosario has emerged down the stretch of his third season as one of Minnesota's most productive players.

These Twins have sure matured quickly, coming off that club-worst 59-103 record in 2016.

Rosario hit a towering two-run home run with two outs in the 10th inning to send the Twins to a victory over the San Diego Padres on Wednesday night to maintain their two-game lead for the second AL wild card spot.

### Angels 9, Astros 1

In Anaheim, a team looking to set the tone early could not have done much better than the Los Angeles Angels on Wednesday night.

Powered by five extra-base hits, they scored five runs in the first inning, and left-hander Tyler Skaggs started putting up zeros on the mound.

And when it was over, the Angels had romped their way to a victory over the Houston Astros to remain two games back of Minnesota for the second AL wild card with 14 to play.

### Diamondbacks 8, Rockies 2

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt is a leading MVP contender who would rather not talk about his own accomplishments. But 1,000 career hits wasn't something that could be ignored.

The star slugger from the Arizona Diamondbacks downplayed his milestone that came in a win over the Colorado Rockies on Wednesday night. He said his mind is on the team's success, and he might reflect on personal achievements after this season or at the end of his career.

"I don't care. It's better than 999, but it is what it is. It was a hit," Goldschmidt said of No. 1,000. "The only thing I care about is us trying to win that game, so I'm glad we won."

### Mariners 8, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Mike Zunino hit the longest homer of his career, and then went deep again. Those two home runs helped the Seattle Mariners jump over two teams in AL wild-card chase.

Zunino broke a scoreless tie in the fifth with a rare shot into the second-level club deck in left field, and the Mariners went on to a victory over the Texas Rangers to hand Martin Perez his first loss in eight starts.

"There's always that urgency that sets in. Obviously, we're running out of time," Zunino said. "You want to come together and play as well as we can.

### Athletics 7, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Doug Fister's rough start was too much for the Boston Red Sox to overcome this time.

Matt Olson hit a two-run homer, Jed Lowrie drove in two runs and the Oakland Athletics rebounded for a 7-3 victory over the AL East leaders to win for the sixth time in seven games Wednesday night.

The loss trimmed Boston's cushion in the division to three games over the New York Yankees, who beat Tampa Bay 3-2.

### Reds 6, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, the Cincinnati Reds bounced back from a lopsided loss to the St. Louis Cardinals with some strong pitching performances and timely hitting one night later.

Rookie right-hander Tyler Mahle tossed five innings, Eugenio Suarez hit a grand slam and the Reds beat the Cardinals.

"Yesterday was ugly, there's no other way to describe that," Reds manager Bryan Price said of his team's 13-4 loss on Tuesday. "You hate to come here and play that poorly in the opener. So to go into this game with a rookie starting pitcher who gives you five scoreless, great shutdown pitching from the bullpen, solid defense and big hits in the fifth inning, it was phenomenal."

### Braves 8, Nationals 2

In Washington, it was part of the Nationals' plan to push Max Scherzer's pitch count deeper than usual.

The Atlanta Braves' plate discipline and timely hitting in the seventh inning wasn't in the script.

Dansby Swanson smacked a bases-loaded, go-ahead two-run single off Scherzer, Matt Kemp hit a grand slam two batters later and Atlanta beat Washington.

Atlanta scored six runs in the seventh, and five were charged to Scherzer (14-6), who walked the bases loaded and remained in the game despite having thrown 114 pitches. Swanson then hit a 1-0 pitch to left to make it 4-2.

### Phillies 8, Marlins 1

In Philadelphia, Giancarlo Stanton may be chasing the home run title but Philadelphia's Rhys Hoskins is the one rewriting history on a nightly basis.

Hoskins continued his record home run pace, connecting on his 17th in just his 33rd major league game during the Phillies' 8-1 victory over the Miami Marlins on Wednesday night.

Hoskins, who was called up to the Phillies on Aug. 10, is the fastest player in major league history to get to 17 career homers. The record was 42 games by Wally Berger, an outfielder for the Boston Braves in 1930.

### Orioles 2, Jays 1

In Toronto, Orioles right-hander Kevin Gausman didn't expect his team's struggling offense to produce much against Blue Jays ace Marcus Stroman.

As it turned out, the two runs Baltimore scored off Stroman in the first inning were just enough for Gausman to get the job done.

Adam Jones had two hits and an RBI, Gausman pitched seven strong innings and Baltimore beat Toronto, snapping a six-game losing streak.

The Orioles have scored two runs or fewer in six of their past seven.

# Paris awarded '24 Summer Olympics, LA gets '28

**LIMA, Peru** (AP)—The tears welling in the Paris mayor's eyes told the story one way. The words the Los Angeles mayor spoke told it another.

This was one of those rare Olympic moments when everyone walked away a winner.

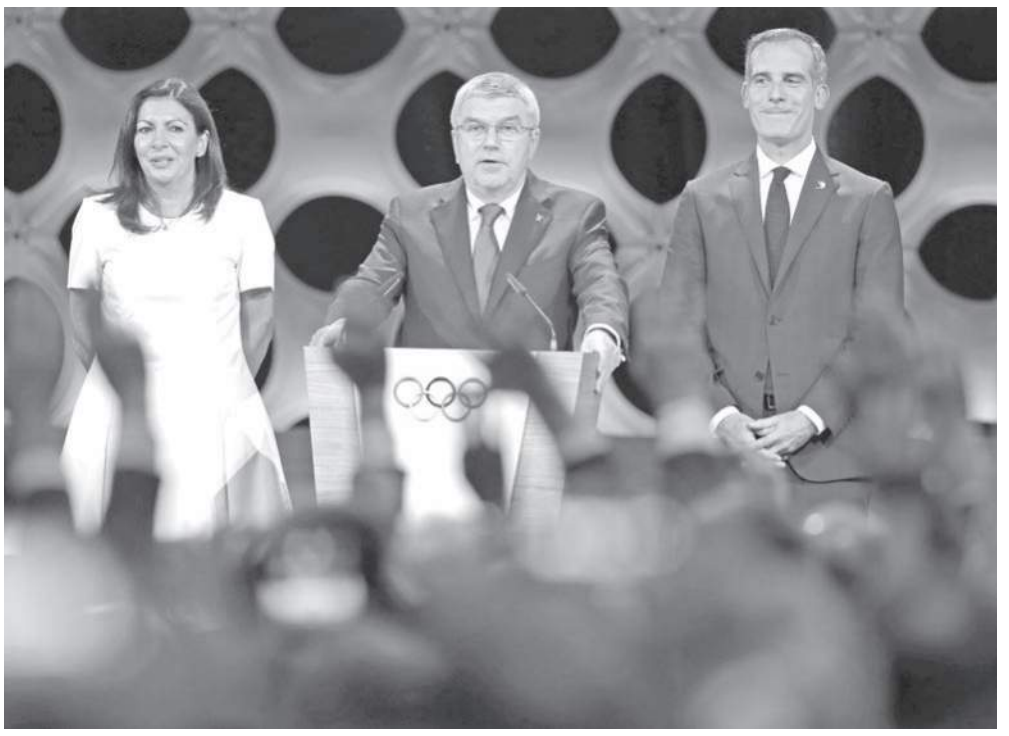
Paris for 2024. Los Angeles for 2028. And the International Olympic Committee for transforming its unruly, tension-filled and sometimes corrupt bidding process into a history-making, two-city victory that secures the future of the Games for the next 11 years.

"This is a pretty radical revolution today," LA mayor Eric Garcetti said. "Usually, we have two or three cities crying in a corner, and one glorious victory. In this world, there are enough losers today, enough people who go after dreams to have them crushed. Today, we model something that can be different."

Different, as in the first time the IOC has granted two Summer Olympics at once. And different, in that there was no need for a secret ballot or any last-minute, back-room deal making. This result came after a year's worth of scrambling by IOC president Thomas Bach, who had only the two bidders left for the original prize, 2024, and couldn't afford to see either lose.

There was no drama— the decision had been locked in for more than a month. But to say there was no emotion would not be true.

After Bach called for a show of hands to approve the dual award, dozens of arms shot skyward from the audience; moments later, Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo stood next to the IOC president dabbing tears from her eyes.



AP

International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Thomas Bach stands between Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo, left, and Los Angeles mayor Eric Garrett as members hold up their hands to vote during an IOC session in Lima, Peru, Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017.

"It was a very strong, very emotive moment," Hidalgo said. "We are all united. Altogether, it's very special for us, because in France, and in other countries, that's not usual."

Moments after the vote, Bach handed cards with the winners' names on them to Hidalgo and Garcetti. One read "Paris 2024," and the other "LA 2028." It was a mere formality, yet both mayors held them aloft with wide smiles on their faces.

Both cities will host their third Olympics.

The Paris Games will come on the 100th anniversary of its last turn. That milestone, plus the fact that Paris has been on the losing end of these bids for 1992, 2008 and 2012, would have made the French capital the sentimental favorite had only 2024 been up for grabs.

Los Angeles moved to 2028, and those Olympics will halt a stretch of 32 years without a Summer Games in the United States. In exchange for the compromise, LA will grab an extra $300 million or more that could help offset the uncertainties that lie ahead over an 11-year wait instead of seven.

"We're ready now," Garcetti insisted, speaking of a city that has virtually every sports venue already in place.

Without any nail-biting conclusion to see, the post-vote celebration at the Eiffel Tower was a sparsely attended near rain-out. Los Angeles held a small event with Olympians Nastia Liukin and John Naber standing beneath the blazing Olympic cauldron at the famous LA Coliseum, but it was mostly media, and no fans.

# Spieth leading FedEx Cup by giving himself chances

**LAKE FOREST, Ill.** (AP)—Jordan Spieth already has won 14 times around the world, which already places him in unique territory. Over the last 75 years, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods are the only other players to have at least 10 victories and three majors before turning 25.

That's only part of the Spieth profile.

Nearly as impressive are the 15 times he has finished runner-up, which Spieth sees more as opportunity than any measure of failure.

"I know you're indifferent when you're asking the question, but I think of it positively," he said Wednesday. "There's been that many tournaments that I've been in the thick of things and truly had a chance to win."

That includes the last two FedEx Cup playoff events.

Spieth lost in a playoff on Long Island when Dustin Johnson smashed a 343-yard drive and a hit a wedge to 4 feet for birdie. Then, he was tied for the lead at the TPC Boston with five holes to play until Spieth missed two greens with long irons and Justin Thomas didn't miss hardly anything in a three-shot victory.

There are worse times of the year to settle for second.

Those consecutive runner-up finishes elevated Spieth to No. 1 in the FedEx Cup going into the BMW Championship, and that's not a bad place to be. He is assured of being among the top five seeds who only have to win the Tour Championship next week to capture the $10 million bonus.

"If I finish runner-up this week, unless one of two other people win, I will have accomplished the goal of being No. 1 going into East Lake," he said.

Johnson and Thomas are the players to whom he referred, and that's only part of the battle at Conway Farms.

The primary goal of the 70-man field is to finish in the top 30 and get to East Lake for the Tour Championship, where everyone has a mathematical shot at capturing the FedEx Cup and its lucrative prize. The top five seeds have the best odds, though Bill Haas at No. 25 won it in 2011.

Haas is on the bubble this year at No. 30, a few spots behind Jason Day, who said Wednesday he will use friends to caddie the rest of the year instead of Colin Swatton, his longtime coach and the only caddie he has ever had on tour.

Right behind Haas are a pair of rookies, Mackenzie Hughes and Xander Schauffele, both PGA Tour winners this year, both wanting a lot more.

Spieth can't recall a time in his career— pro or amateur—when he was runner-up at three straight tournaments. The was runner-up in consecutive weeks in Texas in 2014, losing in a playoff in Houston and by four shots at the Texas Open, and then following that up with a wire-to-wire victory at the Masters.

Then again, he's not the only player in good form.

Johnson is finally back to full health from his back injury on the eve of the Masters, having rallied to beat Spieth at The Northern Trust and starting the final round of the Dell Technologies Championship three shots behind until he never recovered from a slow start.

Thomas has won twice in his last three starts, the other at the PGA Championship for his first major. Thomas already has five victories this year and would be a shoo-in for PGA Tour player of the year provided Spieth doesn't win the last two tournaments to claim the FedEx Cup.

They have been close friends since they were 14. Thomas said he was motivated by Spieth more when Thomas was in college and couldn't compete against him. That's not the case as much now.

"I want to win because I like to," he said.

# Mariota focused on winning vs Jags, not revenge

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** (AP)— Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota says he only wants to beat the Jaguars to grab a pivotal divisional game against the AFC South leader.

He has no concerns about returning to the field where his season ended last Christmas Eve with a broken right leg. He had to be carted off to the locker room.

Worse, the injury came late in the third quarter with the Titans trailing 25-10 in a game they needed to win to keep their division title hopes alive. With a victory against the Jags and another win the following week against the Houston Texans, the Titans would have clinched the franchise's first AFC South title and playoff berth since 2008.

That's something Mariota will talk about.

AP

Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota (8) is pressured by Oakland Raiders defensive tackle Justin Ellis (78) in the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017, in Nashville, Tenn.

"We didn't play very well," Mariota said Wednesday. "Left a bad taste in our mouth. You know that's something I think for a lot of guys lingered throughout the offseason. Obviously, we want to play better. We want to play to our potential."

Mariota has left Jacksonville with a loss in each of his first two seasons, though the last game was easily his worst yet against the Jaguars.

He was pressured from the start and was 8 of 20 for 99 yards and a touchdown. Then Sheldon Day got the Jaguars' second sack late in the third quarter, grabbing Mariota around the ankles and taking the quarterback down. Mariota immediately signaled to the sideline and pounded the ground. Trainers put an air cast around his right leg and ankle and put him on a cart.

"Once he was carted off, I knew he was hurt," Pro Bowl tight end Delanie Walker said. "Usually Marcus can take a hit, and if he's hurt he'll still get up and play. When he couldn't get up, it hit me. That's our leader, and to see him down and get carted off the field, that hurts."

Mariota needed surgery and couldn't put weight on his right leg for weeks. But the No. 2 pick overall in 2015 and the 2014 Heisman Trophy winner was ready for the start of training camp.

Jaguars coach Doug Marrone got his first win in first game as interim coach against the Titans, and he thinks Mariota looks great coming off a 26-16 loss to Oakland.

"I think that he continues to get better, I think he continues to get better and better with the system," Marrone said. "He's operating at a very high level. He's a very dangerous player because he can beat you with his arm, beat you with his feet, does well on his progressions. There's really not any type of flaw that I see in his game."

That may be why Titans coach Mike Mularkey sees no need to dwell on any negatives of that 38-17 loss in Jacksonville or Mariota's injury in that game. He prefers a history lesson only when something good happened.

# Marbury hopes to finish off career back in NBA

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Stephon Marbury hopes to finish off his basketball career back in the NBA.

The 40-year old guard is playing in the Chinese Basketball Association this season for the Beijing Fly Dragons and when the league ends in February or March he wants to join an NBA franchise.

"I've spoken to a team," Marbury told The Associated Press in a phone interview from Malaysia on Wednesday night. "It's still premature right now, but I'm open to coming back and trying to play that veteran leadership role. ... For myself it's a perfect ending being able to mend ties. It will be a team that I will be able to help and I'm looking forward to it. It's a great opportunity to be at my age to be able to hoop. I'm thankful for that. A lot of people can't walk at my age."

Marbury, who first mentioned his interest in playing in the NBA again on Instagram , didn't want to disclose which team he had discussions with.

"The opportunity, it's a great opportunity because I was anticipating retiring in Beijing with the Ducks," he said. "It's the perfect opportunity to go back. I want to do this for the people who had been supporting me for so many years."

Marbury had a 13-year NBA career playing for the Timberwolves, Nets, Suns, Knicks and Celtics. The No. 4 pick in the 1996 draft, Marbury hasn't played in an NBA game since the 2008-09 season with the Boston Celtics. He averaged 19.3 points and 7.6 assists during his NBA career.

He's spent the last nine years playing in China and helped the Beijing Ducks win three championships. Marbury met with NBA commissioner Adam Silver in China last October and has had positive meetings in New York with the league and with the Knicks.

"I wanted to make sure things are right before I made that decision to go back to the NBA. The timing is right and the exit strategy is a good one," he said.

Marbury, a New York native, had a rough five-year stint with the Knicks that included clashes with coaches and teammates. It ended with the two sides agreeing to a buyout in 2009 after he was benched for his final season in New York.

## MGA September Ace tomorrow

The Marianas Golf Association would like to invite all golfers to join the September Ace Tournament this Saturday at Marianas Country Club.

Show time is 9am and tee time is 10am.

MGA is made up of both young and senior, rookie and veteran, men and women CNMI residents, who enjoy the game of golf. The club has about 30 active members. This is the association's fifth year of existence. Their officers are made up of president J.J. Atalig, vice president David Largent, treasurer James Benavente, secretary Geri Dela Cruz, and tournament director Calvin Yamaguchi

For more information, contact Yamaguchi at 287-8894 or email at MarianasGolf670@gmail.com. The public can also view the group's Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/ MarianasGolfAssociation. ***(PR)***

## SONIC

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due to various injuries.

Eclavea has only three fights to his credit, losing his last two after winning his debut. Eclavea defeated (Round 1/submission) Jess Mesa in PXC 44 held last June 27, 2014. About five months later, Eclavea returned to the eight sides, but fell to Josh Sapinosa (unanimous decision) in PXC 46. In PXC 54 last year, the challenger had a rematch with Mesa and this time the latter got the victory via unanimous decision.

Meanwhile, two more title bouts will be featured in tonight's ROP 22.

In the flyweight division, Trench Tech's Jordan "The Machine" Manglona will be defending his belt against Alfred, while in the lightweight class, it will be the reigning champion Wusstig versus Korean Top Team's Min Gu Lee.

Besides the three title duels, two kickboxing matches and 10 other MMA bouts will take place in ROP 22 that will be held at the parking lot of the Marianas Business Plaza. Tinian and Rota fighters will join Guam and Saipan bets in the anticipated action-packed bouts at the octagon cage.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 82 | 62 | .569 | — |
| New York | 78 | 66 | .542 | 4 |
| Tampa Bay | 72 | 74 | .493 | 11 |
| Baltimore | 71 | 74 | .490 | 11½ |
| Toronto | 68 | 77 | .469 | 14½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 89 | 56 | .614 | — |
| Minnesota | 75 | 69 | .521 | 13½ |
| Kansas City | 72 | 72 | .500 | 16½ |
| Detroit | 60 | 84 | .417 | 28½ |
| Chicago | 57 | 87 | .396 | 31½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 87 | 57 | .604 | — |
| Los Angeles | 73 | 71 | .507 | 14 |
| Texas | 72 | 72 | .500 | 15 |
| Seattle | 72 | 73 | .497 | 15½ |
| Oakland | 63 | 81 | .438 | 2 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Washington | 88 | 57 | .607 | — |
| Miami | 68 | 77 | .469 | 20 |
| Atlanta | 66 | 78 | .458 | 21½ |
| New York | 63 | 82 | .434 | 25 |
| Philadelphia | 56 | 89 | .386 | 32 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 79 | 66 | .545 | — |
| Milwaukee | 77 | 69 | .527 | 2½ |
| St. Louis | 76 | 69 | .524 | 3 |
| Pittsburgh | 68 | 79 | .463 | 12 |
| Cincinnati | 63 | 83 | .432 | 16½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-Los Angeles | 94 | 52 | .644 | — |
| Arizona | 84 | 62 | .575 | 10 |
| Colorado | 80 | 66 | .548 | 14 |
| San Diego | 65 | 81 | .445 | 29 |
| San Francisco | 57 | 91 | .385 | 38 |

z-clinched playoff berth
x-clinched division

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## TSUNAMI

*From Page 36*

who hold marks in their current division are U8's Maria Battalones (50m breaststroke) and Aasish Dangol (50m butterfly); 11 to 12's Isaiah Aleksenko (200m butterfly); and 13 to 14's Nelson Batallones (200m butterfly). Nanaka Watanabe has two records in the 9 to 10 division (50m and 100m breaststroke) and she is expected to earn new marks in the 11 to 12. Juhn Tenorio is also encouraged to go for age group marks in the 13 to 14 division after getting four (50m, 100m, and 200m backstroke and 50m butterfly) in the 11 to 12.

"Ashley and Isaiah will be competing in two big swim meets in Japan. One is the Tokyo Junior Sprint in spring and the other is the Tobiuo Cup in summer. Tobiuo Cup is the top championship meet for swimmers in the 12 and under. It is the highest level competition in Japan," Kimura said.

For the local meets, the Tsunami Saipan head coach said Aleksenko aims to keep up with Saipan Swim Club's Jinnosuke Suzuki.

"Jinnosuke is a very fast swimmer. In local or Guam meets, Isaiah and Jinnosuke will surely compete for first place," Kimura said.

As for Tenorio and Watanabe, Kimura said the two swimmers training in Japan last summer will really help them gain records this season.

"They worked so hard during the summer and showed significant improvement when they returned to Saipan. Juhn's style is backstroke, but we are challenging him to do well in freestyle and butterfly, too, and the long distance events. Nanaka, on the other hand, is the best female swimmer in breaststroke, but we are also encouraging her to go long distance in freestyle," Kimura said.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers continue to prepare for the new season, holding regular training sessions at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. They will have their first test on Oct. 7 when they compete in the timed NMISF Opening Meet.

## TEEN

*From Page 36*

said that the Teen Ayuyus must brace for a tough match and he needs his wards to be decisive on the pitch and not to be intimidated by their favored foes. Coming into their game against the CNMI, the Indons won their friendly match against Singapore, 2-0. Indonesia had four more training matches before the Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned tournament, drawing Myanmar, 2-2, and losing to Thailand, 0-1; Australia, 3-7; and Laos, 2-3.

Incidentally, the Commonwealth players will also face Laos bets on Sept. 20 and the host Thailand on Sept. 18 before closing out their Group G assignments with a duel against Timor-Lester on Sept. 24. Timos-Lester and Laos will open the hostilities in the qualifier tomorrow at 4pm Thailand time.

Before heading to Thailand, the Teen Ayuyus also had training matches. They faced Guam twice during a summer camp in July with both matches ending in draws, 2-2. The CNMI players then defeated Dededo FC/ Wings FC U15, 5-0, and drew Islanders FC, 3-3.

"The team is well prepared and the players will give their best in every game. We will show a lot of team spirit. Please continue to support our boys. Your continued support will encourage our boys and make them stronger," Mita said.

# 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

Fab 4's Anna Lei Santos fakes off the defense of HiDaze players during their title game in the women's division of the Saipan leg of the 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Fab 4's Eleina Santos drives against HiDaze's Mary Kay Alferos, left, and Chevy Kate Alipio.

HiDaze's Mary Kay Alferos, left, is closely guarded by Fab 4's Janika Taimanao.

HiDaze's Cassandra Camacho, front, boxes out Fab 4's Anna Lei Santos.

HiDaze's Chevy Kate Alipio pulls up for a jumper against Fab 4's Chenille Espinosa.

CTSI's Mikky Kautz is hounded by two Blue Babes defenders.

Blue Babes' Quina Flores, center, beats CTSI's Mikky Kautz, left, and Jasmin Phan to the ball.

Fab 4's Janika Taimanao looks for a teammate to pass the ball to as she is hemmed in by two HiDaze defenders.

**Blackjack: Indians set AL record with 21st straight win**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

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# 'Sonic Boom' aims for quick finish

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez strikes a pose before resuming his training session early this week at the Trench Tech gym in Garapan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Trench Tech's Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez is looking to dispatch Guam's Robin Eclavea early in their featherweight title bout tonight in Rites of Passage 22: Rampage.

Alvarez will be stepping on the octagon cage for the first time after a two-year layoff and does not want to get overexcited with his return as he goes for a quick finish against the VIDA BJJ Guam standout.

"My game plan is to stay calm and collected. No predictions, but I always go for the finish," said Alvarez yesterday before the scheduled weigh-in at GIG Discotheque.

The 23-year-old has a history of wrapping up his fights early, as four of his five wins were recorded in the first round. Alvarez's fastest victory was made in 2013 when he floored Jay Taijeron with a kick to the head for a knockout win at the 20-second mark of Round 1 of their match in PXC 40. In 2014, when he grabbed the featherweight belt from Robert Wusstig, the Trench Tech bet also earned a KO triumph (flurry of punches), just 26 seconds in the opening round of the main event in Trench Warz 18: Rock and Rumble.

Alvarez's last victory was also posted in Round 1 (4:27), as his foe Ernie Braca was disqualified due to an illegal kick in their duel in PXC 48 last June 13, 2015. For his first win, Alvarez prevailed by TKO over Regan Mality at the end of the first round of their showdown in ROP 5: Raging Warriors. The only time Alvarez failed to bring down his opponent in Round 1 was during PXC 42 held last Feb. 28, 2014, as he won via unanimous decision over McKlane Alfred.

With his five wins and one loss (versus Mark Abelardo in PXC 50 in 2015), Alvarez believes he has the advantage against Eclavea, experience and record-wise.

"I would say that my advantage over my opponent would be my experience. But best of luck to him and Biba Marianas," said Alvarez, who was sidelined for nearly two years

**See SONIC on Page 34**

# Tsunami Saipan targets more records

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center is setting its sights on more records in the 2017-2018 season.

Head coach Hiro Kimura said that the club has seven swimmers with age group marks and they are pressed to add entries to the CNMI record list in the upcoming season as Tsunami Saipan is scheduled to compete in nine timed events.

Ashley Dangol leads Tsunami Saipan's record holders, owning two in the girls 11 to 12 age group—100m butterfly (1:13.19) and 200m butterfly (2:45.00). Other club members

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Juhn Tenorio is among the Tsunami Saipan swimmers expected to earn CNMI age group records in the upcoming season.

# Teen Ayuyus debut vs Indonesia tomorrow

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The CNMI U16 Boys National Team will have its first match in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers tomorrow as it takes on Indonesia at the Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand.

Game time is at 7:30pm (10:30pm Saipan time).

The Teen Ayuyus left for Thailand early yesterday morning and will have less than two days to get ready against the Indons. The CNMI U16 Boys National Team is made up of 20 players and will be coached by Michiteru Mita, who will be assisted by Jershwin Angeles. Goalkeeper coach Jonathan Takano is slated to join the squad yesterday evening after coming from a seminar in Malaysia.

Against Indonesia, Mita

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI Boys U16 National Team pose for a photo at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport early yesterday morning before they leave for Thailand to compete in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers.